SATURDAY
October 11, 2025

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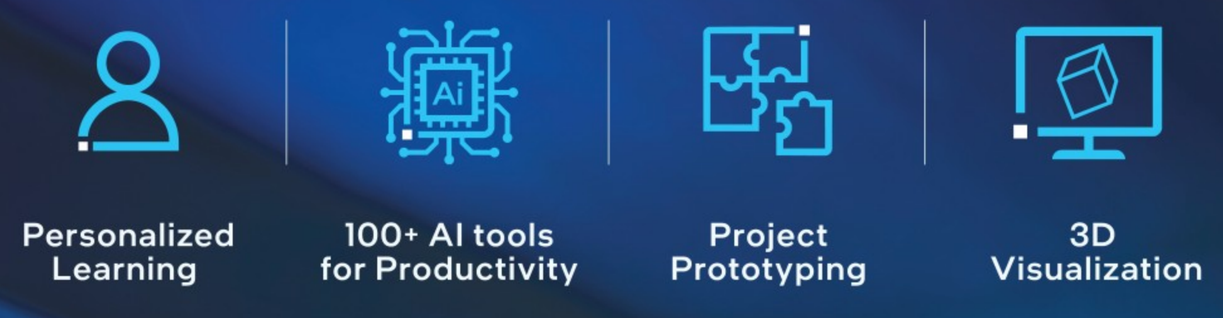

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Venezuelan Opposition leader wins Peace Nobel

WORLD

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No appeals received on final electoral rolls: EC

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On the trail of a killer cough syrup

How a weak regulatory system claimed 20 lives

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Jaiswal, Sai Sudharsan put India in command

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No takers for Kannada engg. courses in State

BENGALURU
Non-enrolment and lack of government support has cast a shadow on the Kannada-medium engineering courses, started under NEP four years ago. » KARNATAKA

Menstrual leave: Challenges of implementation

BENGALURU
The decision to grant one menstrual leave per month has raised concerns about its implementation with many questioning how will workflow be maintained without disruptions. » PAGE 8

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India's Kabul mission to be upgraded to embassy

Jaishankar makes announcement during meeting with Taliban Foreign Minister, raises concerns over forced repatriation of Afghan refugees by Pak., calls 'cross-border terror' a common challenge

Kallol Bhattacherjee
NEW DELHI

India will upgrade its 'technical mission' in Kabul to the status of an embassy, External Affairs Minister S. Jaishankar said on Friday.

The announcement came during Mr. Jaishankar's meeting with Amir Khan Muttaqi, Foreign Minister of the Taliban administration in Afghanistan, at Hyderabad House. Mr. Jaishankar also raised India's concerns over the forced repatriation of Afghan refugees by Pakistan and described "cross-border terrorism" as a common challenge to both India and Afghanistan.

"India is fully committed to the sovereignty, territorial integrity and independence of Afghanistan. Closer cooperation between us contributes to your national development, as well as regional stability and resilience. To enhance that, I am pleased to announce today the upgrading of India's technical mission in Kabul to the status of Embassy of India," said Mr. Jaishankar.

India had shut its embassy in Kabul in 2021 after the U.S.-led forces withdrew from Afghanistan.

In an interaction at the Embassy of Afghanistan, Mr. Muttaqi welcomed the decision and said, "We will send our diplomats to the Embassy of Afghanistan." He clarified that the Taliban may not send an ambassador at the beginning.

CONTINUED ON
» PAGE 14

Reaching out: S. Jaishankar with Afghanistan's Foreign Minister Amir Khan Muttaqi in New Delhi on Friday. ANI

Pak. violating Kabul's sovereign territory: Taliban

KABUL
The Taliban regime on Friday accused Pakistan of "violating Kabul's sovereign territory", a day after two explosions were heard. The Taliban have previously accused Islamabad of border strikes, but this is the first time they have alleged an incursion deep into their territory, calling it an "unprecedented act". » WORLD

Ceasefire takes effect as Israel forces pull back to agreed area

Associated Press
WADI GAZA, GAZA STRIP

A ceasefire between Israel and Hamas came into effect in Gaza on Friday, the Israeli military said, hours after Israel's Cabinet approved a deal to pause the fighting and exchange the remaining hostages for Palestinian prisoners.

Israeli forces have withdrawn to agreed deployment lines for the first stage of the ceasefire, it added.

Tens of thousands of people who had gathered in Wadi Gaza in central Gaza started walking north after the military's announcement at noon. Beforehand, Palestinians reported heavy shelling in parts of Gaza throughout Friday morning, but no significant bombardment was reported after.

Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu insisted in a televised statement on Friday that the next stages would see Hamas disarmed and Gaza demilitarised.

"If this is achieved the easy way – so be it. If not – it will be achieved the hard way," he said.

Under the deal, all 48 hostages are expected to be released. In exchange, Israel will release around 2,000 Palestinian prisoners.

CONTINUED ON
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Palestinians move along the coastal road near Wadi Gaza towards Gaza City on Friday. AP

BDA powers to be transferred to GBA

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

Deputy Chief Minister D.K. Shivakumar has said that the powers so far vested with the Bengaluru Development Authority (BDA) will now be transferred to the Greater Bengaluru Authority (GBA).

This, he said, would mark a major administrative reform in how Bengaluru will now be governed under a single metropolitan framework as GBA will now be the planning authority. Mr. Shivakumar announced this at the first-ever meeting of the authority held after its formation.

He mentioned that the elections would first be held within the currently declared GBA limits. After that, a committee would decide which areas should be included based on their level of urban development.

FULL REPORT
» PAGE 6

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Sabarimala gold case: HC asks SIT to file criminal case

The Hindu Bureau
KOCHI

The Kerala High Court on Friday directed that the report of the Travancore Devaswom Board's Vigilance wing be handed over to the State police chief for registration of a case over the reduction in weight of the gold-clad copper coverings of idols at Sabarimala. It also directed the SIT to register a criminal case over the "misappropriation of gold" from the shrine.

FULL REPORT ON
» SOUTH PAGE

Gearing up

Season of lights: An artisan makes earthen lamps at his workshop ahead of Deepavali in Ahmedabad in Gujarat on Friday. VIJAY SONEJI

Govt. notifies land acquisition to raise Almatti dam height

A total of 1,33,867 acres will be acquired for increasing the height of the dam from 519.60 metres to 524.25 metres

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

An estimated ₹75,000 crore will be spent for implementing the project. FILE PHOTO

The State government has issued a notification for the acquisition of lands for implementing the much-delayed Upper Krishna Project (UKP) Phase III, and the land acquisition process is expected to begin soon.

A total of 1,33,867 acres would be acquired for increasing the height of the Almatti dam from 519.60 metres to 524.25 metres. Land would be acquired for submergence of land by raising the height of the dam as well for canal projects.

Annual spend

An estimated ₹75,000 crore would be spent for implementing the project, including land acquisition, reconstruction and rehabilitation, in the next four years.

Annually, ₹18,000 crore would be provided to the Water Resources Department, it said. The notification said 75,563 acres would be acquired for submerging the land for raising the height of the dam, 6,467 acres for rehabilitation of 20 villages and portion of the Bagalkot town and 51,837 acres for canals.

When completed, the UKP Phase-III would irrigate 5.94 lakh hectares of land in North Karnataka districts of Vijayapura, Bagalkot, Raichur, Kalaburagi, Yadgir, Koppal and Gadag.

Cabinet clearance

The special Cabinet meeting held on September 16, 2025, gave clearance for the acquisition of land in one go through "consent award or direct purchase" from farmers.

The compensation amount, totalling approximately ₹70,000 crore, would be paid over three financial years starting from the current year.

Farmers whose lands would be submerged due to the increase in dam height would receive ₹40 lakh and ₹30 lakh per acre of wet and dry land, respectively. Farmers whose lands would have to be acquired for building canals would receive ₹30 lakh and ₹25 lakh per acre of wet and dry land, respectively.

The entire land acquisition process will be taken up through consent or direct purchase to expedite the process, while legal measures would be taken to move the cases related to land acquisition that are pending before various courts to a mediation process.

Excise Minister R.B. Thimmapur, who hails from Bagalkot, thanked Chief Minister Siddaramaiah and Deputy Chief Minister D.K. Shivakumar for showing interest in implementing the project.

ED raids Bengal Minister's residence over 'job scam'

Shrabana Chatterjee
KOLKATA

The Enforcement Directorate (ED) on Friday searched the residence of West Bengal Minister Sujit Bose and six other locations across Kolkata. According to ED officials, the searches were part of a probe into the alleged irregularities in recruitment at a municipality.

Mr. Bose, a Trinamool Congress MLA from Bidhannagar, is the Minister for Fire and Emergency Services in West Bengal. The ED officials searched his residence-cum-office in Salt Lake, which falls within his constituency. Other locations searched include the residence of a councillor in the Nagerbazar area, the residences of former South Dum Dum Municipality officials, and a restaurant allegedly owned by Mr. Bose's son, which is linked to the case.

Under lens: Security personnel keep vigil as the ED searches a property of a close aide of Sujit Bose in Kolkata on Friday. PTI

The Central agency had earlier conducted a search at the Minister's residence in January 2024 and questioned him for several hours.

"They have come to do their work. They have also come before. I have never stopped them from conducting searches; I have cooperated. Last time, they had informed me before coming; this time, they did not. Since the election is coming up, they (Central agencies) are doing everything to harass people in power," Mr. Bose said. He also added that "we do not engage in any activity that society or its people can find fault with."

The Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) came down heavily on the Trinamool Minister after the ED officials searched his residence.

Former BJP State president Sukanta Majumdar questioned how a government official could accumulate such wealth, adding that "the common man deserves to know the source of the money".

"It has been established that there is corruption. People have grown tired of this prolonged investigation by the agency," BJP State president Sami Bhattacharya said.

Renaissance man — charting the white-ball legacy of Rohit Sharma

From 2017 to 2025, the Mumbaikar captained India in 118 limited-overs games and won more than three-fourths of those. But the 38-year-old left an imprint far deeper than mere numbers. He was a players' leader — calm, humble and empathetic, and master-minded India's reboot into becoming one of history's best cricketing sides

GETTY IMAGES

Amol Karhadkar

On October 7, at a prestigious sports awards ceremony in Mumbai, Rohit Sharma received a special honour – a recognition for captaining India to Champions Trophy glory, the nation's second successive ICC limited-overs title within a year. The applause was thunderous, the tributes heartfelt, but the timing ironic.

Days earlier, Rohit's captaincy era in Indian cricket had officially drawn to a close. His leadership had already faded from the Indian Premier League (IPL) landscape before the 2024 season. He had retired from T20 Internationals minutes after lifting the T20 World Cup in Barbados. And in early 2025, he called time on his illustrious Test career, leaving just the ODIs, the format that had defined his evolution as one of India's greats.

On October 4, chief selector Ajit Agarkar confirmed what many had expected – Shubman Gill would succeed Rohit as India's ODI captain. The announcement, symbolising a generational shift, brought the curtain down on one of the most successful and transformative tenures in India's white-ball history.

Leader of many hues

Rohit captained India for the first time in 2017 as a stand-in leader in both limited-overs formats. He had already established himself as a serial winner in the IPL, leading Mumbai Indians to three titles. That experience had toughened him, sharpened his cricketing instincts, and earned him the reputation of a tactician with both vision and patience.

When Virat Kohli opted out of the 2018 Asia Cup, the selectors, in consultation with coach Ravi Shastri, had little hesitation in handing Rohit the responsibility. What followed in the United Arab Emirates that September was a defining chapter.

Rohit marshalled his team with clarity and composure, recalibrated the batting order and bowling plans after Hardik Pandya's injury, and inspired India to yet another continental triumph. It wasn't just the crown that mattered – it was the method. His calmness under pressure, willingness to back players beyond conventional logic, and the knack for setting attacking fields without being reckless – all became hallmarks of the Rohit Sharma blueprint.

However, unlike Mahendra Singh Dhoni, Rohit was never the silent, inscrutable figure in charge. He was expressive – often gesturing to fielders, frequently in conversation with bowlers, and occasionally animated when a plan went awry. Yet, beneath the exterior that often trended on social media, was an astute cricketing mind that operated with near-mathematical precision.

He was vocal, yes, but not overbearing. He listened. Bowlers under him often spoke about how Rohit's greatest strength lay in not forcing his opinion – in letting the bowler own the plan even if it went against the textbook.

He proved that leadership neither needed to be loud to be effective nor dictatorial to be decisive

In a team full of superstars and big egos, Rohit's humility and humour acted as equalisers. The dressing room, once fragmented by individualism, began to reflect the captain's temperament – focused, aware, but always light-hearted enough to absorb pressure.

The big reset

When Rohit and Rahul Dravid took over the reins in 2022, Indian cricket was at a crossroads. The team was strong, but the methods had begun to creak. The semifinal defeat in the 2022 T20 World Cup to England in Adelaide was a wake-up call, and Rohit confronted it head-on.

He candidly admitted that India was on the verge of being outdated in T20 cricket. More importantly, he didn't hide behind statistics or excuses. He initiated a reboot – both in mindset and team structure.

The approach to batting changed from accumulation to acceleration. The top-order began to take risks, and the middle-order was built for flexibility rather than role rigidity. He didn't just preach "fearless cricket" – he embodied it, walking out to open the innings with the licence to go hard from ball one.

If India's 2022-23 season was about finding that rhythm, 2023-24 was about mastering it. The T20 World Cup triumph in June 2024 that ended an 11-year ICC trophy drought was both vindication and farewell. Rohit's fearless 39-ball 57 in the semifinal against England – played with abandon and intent – became symbolic of the philosophy he had championed.

ODI maestro

Months earlier, the same approach had ended up haunting him. Having gotten India off to a flier in the 2023 World Cup final against Australia on home soil, a rush of blood resulted in Rohit losing his wicket and India the plot. Nevertheless, if T20s showcased Rohit's reformist zeal, ODIs reflected the mastery.

Few Indian cricketers have understood the tempo of the 50-over format quite like him. From his three double-centuries to his uncanny ability to read match situations, Rohit's ODI legacy was already secure long before he wore the captain's armband. As a leader, he added a layer of tactical brilliance. He rotated his bowlers smartly, preserved strike bowlers for key overs, and often set unorthodox fields, particularly against left-handers. His use of spinners in the middle overs, a throwback to India's 1990s approach, wrested back control in a format increasingly skewed towards batters.

Under him, India reached the 2023 World Cup summit clash with a near-flawless run – only to falter at the last step in Ahmedabad. Yet, even that heartbreak was marked by admiration for the brand of cricket his side had played – attacking, efficient and team-first. In defeat, Rohit's mature leadership stood out. There was no deflection, no dramatics – only acknowledgment of the opponent's superiority and quiet pride in his team's consistency. Beyond tactics and trophies, what distinguished Rohit was his empathy. He was a captain who noticed when a youngster was nervous, cracked a joke to lighten the huddle before a big chase and publicly backed out-of-form players. For those like Suryakumar Yadav, Gill, Kuldeep Yadav and Mohammed Siraj, Rohit wasn't just a captain – he was a mentor who made them believe that they belonged.

Agent of change

Rohit's emotional intelligence often went underappreciated, overshadowed by his effortless six-hitting or his meme-worthy press conferences. But within the ecosystem of Indian cricket, it was transformative.

From 2017 to 2025, Rohit led India in 118 limited-overs internationals, winning over three-fourths of those. He became the only Indian skipper after Dhoni to lift two ICC trophies.

Yet, his legacy cannot be confined to win-loss ratios. He changed how India approached white-ball cricket. He proved that leadership neither needed to be loud to be effective nor dictatorial to be decisive. He reminded a cricket-mad nation that strategy and soul could co-exist. As the baton passes to Gill, the journey comes full circle for Rohit – from an eager understudy to the heir apparent, from the 'Hitman' to the headman, and finally to the elder statesman who left the team richer in identity and belief. He might not have captained for as long as Kohli or amassed as many titles as Dhoni, but in redefining India's limited-overs ethos, Rohit ensured his name would be etched alongside.

And as he stood on that awards stage – leaner, composed and smiling knowingly – it wasn't just an honour he received. It was an acknowledgement that his legacy, like his lofted pull over midwicket, will stay alive in India's collective cricketing memory for a long, long time.

STACKING UP

ATP Men's Top 15

#	Player	Age	Points	Events
1	Carlos Alcaraz	22	11,540	20
2	Jannik Sinner	24	10,950	17
3	Alexander Zverev	28	5,980	24
4	Taylor Fritz	27	4,995	22
5	Novak Djokovic	38	4,830	18
6	Ben Shelton	22	4,190	22
7	Alex De Minaur	26	3,735	24
8	Jack Draper	23	3,590	17
9	Lorenzo Musetti	23	3,555	20
10	Karen Khachanov	29	3,190	24
11	Holger Rune	22	2,990	21
12	Casper Ruud	26	2,945	23
13	Felix Auger-Aliassime	25	2,755	27
14	Andrey Rublev	27	2,560	29
15	Tommy Paul	28	2,460	20

Top Indians ▶

Sumit Nagal
Rank 289 ▲▼ No change

Aryan Shah
Rank 394 ▲ 2 spots

WTA Women's Top 15

#	Player	Age	Points	Events
1	Aryna Sabalenka	27	11,010	19
2	Iga Swiatek	24	8,553	18
3	Coco Gauff	21	7,263	20
4	Amanda Anisimova	24	5,989	20
5	Mirra Andreeva	18	4,698	19
6	Jessica Pegula	31	4,653	22
7	Madison Keys	30	4,459	19
8	Jasmine Paolini	29	4,156	19
9	Elena Rybakina	26	3,898	21
10	Zheng Qinwen	23	3,678	16
11	Ekaterina Alexandrova	30	3,253	25
12	Clara Tauson	22	2,723	23
13	Elina Svitolina	31	2,606	17
14	Emma Navarro	24	2,515	25
15	Belinda Bencic	28	2,453	20

Top Indians ▶

Sahaja Yamalapalli
Rank 346 ▲ 1 spot

Shrivalli Bhamidipaty
Rank 376 ▼ 2 spots

English Premier League Standings

#	Team	GP	W	D	L	GF	GA	GD	PTS
1	Arsenal	7	5	1	1	14	3	11	16
2	Liverpool	7	5	0	2	13	9	4	15
3	Tottenham Hotspur	7	4	2	1	13	5	8	14
4	AFC Bournemouth	7	4	2	1	11	8	3	14
5	Manchester City	7	4	1	2	15	6	9	13
6	Crystal Palace	7	3	3	1	9	5	4	12
7	Chelsea	7	3	2	2	13	9	4	11
8	Everton	7	3	2	2	9	7	2	11
9	Sunderland	7	3	2	2	7	6	1	11
10	Manchester United	7	3	1	3	9	11	-2	10
11	Newcastle United	7	2	3	2	6	5	1	9
12	Brighton & Hove Albion	7	2	3	2	10	10	0	9
13	Aston Villa	7	2	3	2	6	7	-1	9
14	Fulham	7	2	2	3	8	11	-3	8
15	Leeds United	7	2	2	3	7	11	-4	8
16	Brentford	7	2	1	4	9	12	-3	7
17	Nottingham Forest	7	1	2	4	5	12	-7	5
18	Burnley	7	1	1	5	7	15	-8	4
19	West Ham United	7	1	1	5	6	16	-10	4
20	Wolverhampton Wanderers	7	0	2	5	5	14	-9	2

Italian Serie A Standings

#	Team	GP	W	D	L	GF	GA	GD	PTS
1	Napoli	6	5	0	1	12	6	6	15
2	AS Roma	6	5	0	1	7	2	5	15
3	AC Milan	6	4	1	1	9	3	6	13
4	Internazionale	6	4	0	2	17	8	9	12
5	Juventus	6	3	3	0	9	5	4	12
6	Atalanta	6	2	4	0	11	5	6	10
7	Bologna	6	3	1	2	9	5	4	10
8	Como	6	2	3	1	7	5	2	9
9	Sassuolo	6	3	0	3	8	8	0	9
10	Cremonese	6	2	3	1	7	8	-1	9
11	Cagliari	6	2	2	2	6	6	0	8
12	Udinese	6	2	2	2	6	9	-3	8
13	Lazio	6	2	1	3	10	7	3	7
14	Parma	6	1	2	3	3	7	-4	5
15	Lecce	6	1	2	3	5	10	-5	5
16	Torino	6	1	2	3	5	13	-8	5
17	Fiorentina	6	0	3	3	4	8	-4	3
18	Hellas Verona	6	0	3	3	2	9	-7	3
19	Genoa	6	0	2	4	3	9	-6	2
20	Pisa	6	0	2	4	3	10	-7	2

Spanish LaLiga Standings

#	Team	GP	W	D	L	GF	GA	GD	PTS
1	Real Madrid	8	7	0	1	19	9	10	21
2	Barcelona	8	6	1	1	22	9	13	19
3	Villarreal	8	5	1	2	14	8	6	16
4	Real Betis	8	4	3	1	13	8	5	15
5	Atletico Madrid	8	3	4	1	15	10	5	13
6	Sevilla	8	4	1	3	15	11	4	13
7	Elche	8	3	4	1	11	9	2	13
8	Athletic Club	8	4	1	3	9	9	0	13
9	Espanyol	8	3	3	2	11	11	0	12
10	Alaves	8	3	2	3	9	8	1	11
11	Getafe	8	3	2	3	9	11	-2	11
12	Osasuna	8	3	1	4	7	8	-1	10
13	Levante	8	2	2	4	13	14	-1	8
14	Rayo Vallecano	8	2	2	4	8	10	-2	8
15	Valencia	8	2	2	4	10	14	-4	8
16	Celta Vigo	8	0	6	2	7	10	-3	6
17	Real Oviedo	8	2	0	6	4	14	-10	6
18	Girona	8	1	3	4	5	17	-12	6
19	Real Sociedad	8	1	2	5	7	12	-5	5
20	Mallorca	8	1	2	5	7	13	-6	5

German Bundesliga Standings

#	Team	GP	W	D	L	GF	GA	GD	PTS
1	Bayern Munich	6	6	0	0	25	3	22	18
2	Borussia Dortmund	6	4	2	0	12	4	8	14
3	RB Leipzig	6	4	1	1	8	8	0	13
4	VfB Stuttgart	6	4	0	2	8	6	2	12
5	Bayer Leverkusen	6	3	2	1	12	8	4	11
6	FC Cologne	6	3	1	2	11	9	2	10
7	Eintracht Frankfurt	6	3	0	3	17	16	1	9
8	SC Freiburg	6	2	2	2	9	9	0	8
9	Hamburg SV	6	2	2	2	6	8	-2	8
10	St. Pauli	6	2	1	3	8	9	-1	7
11	TSG Hoffenheim	6	2	1	3	9	12	-3	7
12	Werder Bremen	6	2	1	3	9	14	-5	7
13	1. FC Union Berlin	6	2	1	3	8	13	-5	7
14	FC Augsburg	6	2	0	4	11	13	-2	6
15	VfL Wolfsburg	6	1	2	3	8	10	-2	5
16	Mainz	6	1	1	4	5	10	-5	4
17	Borussia Monchengladbach	6	0	3	3	5	12	-7	3
18	1. FC Heidenheim 1846	6	1	0	5	4	11	-7	3

Test Batting

#	Player	Rating	Career best
1	Joe Root	908	932
2	Harry Brook	868	898
3	Kane Williamson	850	919
4	Steve Smith	816	947
5	Temba Bavuma	790	806
6	Kamindu Mendis	781	784
7	Yashasvi Jaiswal	779	858
8	Rishabh Pant	761	801
9	Daryl Mitchell	748	804
10	Ben Duckett	747	787

Test Bowling

#	Player	Rating	Career best
1	Jasprit Bumrah	885	908
2	Kagiso Rabada	851	902
3	Matt Henry	846	846
4	Pat Cummins	838	914
5	Josh Hazlewood	815	864
6	Noman Ali	806	806
7	Scott Boland	784	784
8	Nathan Lyon	769	812
9	Marco Jansen	767	803
10	Mitchell Starc	766	807

ODI Batting

#	Player	Rating	Career best
1	Shubman Gill	784	847
2	Rohit Sharma	756	882
3	Babar Azam	739	898
4	Virat Kohli	736	909
5	Daryl Mitchell	720	751
6	Charith Asalanka	716	725
7	Harry Tector	708	767
8	Shreyas Iyer	704	710
9	Shai Hope	699	802
10	Ibrahim Zadran	676	693

ODI Bowling

#	Player	Rating	Career best
1	Keshav Maharaj	680	741
2	Maheesh Theekshana	659	686
3	Jofra Archer	654	654
4	Kuldeep Yadav	650	761
5	Bernard Scholtz	645	648
6	Rashid Khan	640	799
7	Mitchell Santner	637	657
8	Adil Rashid	628	675
9	Matt Henry	622	691
10	Ravindra Jadeja	616	733

T20I Batting

#	Player	Rating	Career best
1	Abhishek Sharma	926	931
2	Phil Salt	844	881
3	Tilak Varma	819	845
4	Jos Buttler	785	794
5	Pathum Nissanka	779	779
6	Travis Head	743	885
7	Tim Seifert	719	727
8	Suryakumar Yadav	698	912
9	Kusal Perera	692	786
10	Mitchell Marsh	681	681

T20I Bowling

#	Player	Rating	Career best
1	Varun Chakaravarthy	803	803
2	Akeal Hosein	699	714
3	Rashid Khan	693	828
4	Adam Zampa	691	746
5	Jacob Duffy	690	750
6	Adil Rashid	689	747
7	Wanindu Hasaranga	687	809
8	Abrar Ahmed	686	703
9	Nuwan Thushara	676	714
10	Kuldeep Yadav	648	737

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Discount up to*2	₹29 000	₹16 543	₹50 000	₹50 086	₹26 000
Cashback up to*3	₹6 000	₹2 500	₹7 000	₹7 645	₹8 000
Exchange Bonus up to*4	-	-	₹1 000	₹4 000	-
Maximum Savings up to*5	₹35 000	₹19 043	₹58 000	₹61 731	₹34 000
EMI*6	Starting at ₹9 832/month	Starting at ₹5 399/month	Starting at ₹4 778/month	Starting at ₹8 494/month	Starting at ₹3 083/month

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*3Cashback offer valid on eligible laptop purchase only. Terms and conditions apply. Please reach out to laptop brands, retail stores or market places, for more details.
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Woman kills her two minor children and ends life

The police have registered an FIR against the woman's husband for abetment to suicide

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

The police say no death note was found at the crime scene; however, the woman has been booked for allegedly killing her children

A 28-year-old woman allegedly killed her two children before taking her own life at their residence in Bagalagunte, in the northwestern part of the city. The police have booked the woman's husband, identified as Ramesh, based on a complaint filed by her family.

The deceased woman has been identified as Vijayalakshmi, who is alleged to have killed her four-year-old daughter and one-year-old son, according to the police.

According to the police, the incident occurred around 7.30 p.m. on Thursday, when she was alone with the children, as Ramesh had gone to his hometown, and his aunt, who lived with the couple, had not yet returned home from work.

"The deaths came to light when Ramesh's aunt returned home from work. We were informed around 9 p.m. and the post-mortem report suggested no foul play," said an officer investigating the case.

Preliminary investigation revealed that the couple hailed from Maski in Raichur district and had been married for the past five years. Since then, they have been living in a rented house in Bhuvaneshwari Nagar, Bagalagunte.

Ramesh worked as an assistant manager at a clothing showroom in a mall in West Bengaluru, while Vijayalakshmi was a homemaker.

Vijayalakshmi's family has alleged that Ramesh had been pressuring her to divorce him, as he intended to marry someone else. The families of the couple had recently resolved the issue and sent them back to Bengaluru.

Case registered

Police said they did not find any note at the scene of the crime.

However, based on the complaint filed by the victim's family, Ramesh, the woman's husband has been booked for offences, including harassment by a husband and abetment to suicide under the Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita (BNS).

In the same FIR, the police have included a case of murder against Vijayalakshmi for allegedly killing her children.

(If you are in distress or having suicidal tendencies, please reach out to these 24/7 helplines: KIRAN at 1800-599-0019 or Arogya Sahayavani at 104 for help.)

Online abuse against actor Ramya: CCB files chargesheet against 11 accused

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

The Central Crime Branch (CCB) officials have filed a 380-page chargesheet against 11 individuals accused of posting indecent comments and sending abusive messages to actor and former Mandya MP Ramya on her social media account.

The CCB has invoked BNS Sections pertaining to outraging the modesty of a woman, issuing online threats and sexual abuse, and using cyberspace for criminal activities. The punishment under these sections ranges from three to seven years of imprisonment, along with fines.

A senior police officer overseeing the investigation said that all technical details, including the identities of the message senders, their electronic devices, and the statements recorded from both the accused and the victim, have been submitted.

Ramya

"This is a preliminary chargesheet, as more accused persons will be arrested. The victim had listed 44 different social media profiles in her complaint," the officer said.

In July, Ms. Ramya, also known as Divya Spandana, had shared the Supreme Court's observations regarding the murder of a Chitradurga man named Renukaswamy, in which Kannada actor Darshan is an accused. Her post on social media triggered an online backlash from Darshan's fans, who allegedly abused her and issued threats. Following this, Ramya filed a complaint against 44 social media accounts that had posted inappropriate comments.

The CCB team, led by Raja Imam Khasim, Deputy Commissioner of Police , Crime-1, arrested 11 individuals from various districts across the State.

The city police have warned of strict action against online abusers and those posting objectionable comments, emphasising that crimes against women and children will not be tolerated. "People assume the online space can be misused to abuse or post objectionable content, but they forget it is constantly monitored and digital footprints remain," a cybercrime investigator said, adding that even a single complaint can lead to fines and imprisonment.

Two-day cultural event

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

A two-day cultural event titled "*Sangeetha, Manassu Mattu Samaja Nirmana*" will take place at Dr. H.N. Multimedia Hall, National College, Basavanagudi.

Organised jointly by Bengaluru Lalithakala Parishat, Bengaluru Parisara Trust, and Sri Raja Rajeshwari Kala Niketan, the programme will commence on Saturday at 4 p.m., with a special focus on legendary composers and saints such as Amir Khusro, Tansen, Haridas, Sadarang, Kanhapatra, Akkamahadevi, and Tulasidas.

The cultural tribute will continue on Sunday from 8 a.m., featuring sessions dedicated to the lives and works of Sri Purandara Dasa, Saint Tyagaraja, Sri Muttuswamy Deekshita, Sri Shyama Shastri, and Sri Kanakadasaru.

The event seeks to highlight the transformative power of music in shaping the mind (*manassu*) and society (*samaja*), offering a rich experience.

Man found dead in the washroom of city resto-bar

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

A 31-year-old man was found dead under suspicious circumstances in the washroom of a resto-bar in West Bengaluru's R.R. Nagar on Thursday, police said.

The deceased has been identified as Megharaj, 31, manager of Jana Small Bank.

According to the police, the incident occurred at a resto-bar in Ideal Homes Layout around 11.30 p.m. Megharaj came to the pub with three of his friends. Before they left, he went to the washroom while his friends came downstairs and waited for him.

"As he failed to return even after 10 minutes, they all went up to check on Megharaj and found the washroom door locked from the inside. When he did not respond, authorities broke open the door and found Megharaj dead," said a police officer involved in the investigation.

The police reviewed the CCTV camera footage, but found nothing suspicious, as no one else was near the washroom when Megharaj entered. "There was no forced entry into the washroom, nor did the crime scene reveal any signs of foul play. We have therefore registered this as a case of unnatural death," the officer added, noting that health conditions may have contributed to the incident.

However, the police are yet to confirm whether the deceased had any pre-existing health issues.

The forensic team has collected samples from the crime scene. Police are awaiting Megharaj's postmortem and the forensic report before proceeding further with the investigation. The deceased is survived by his wife and six-month old baby, the police said.

Auto driver held for abusing woman over Uber ride cancellation

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

Bengaluru police, on Friday, arrested a 21-year-old autorickshaw driver for allegedly abusing a woman from Northeast India after she cancelled her Uber ride in Kothanur, northeast Bengaluru.

The driver has been identified as Pavan H.S., a resident of Gunjur and a native of Mandya, police said.

He has been remanded in judicial custody.

According to the police, the incident took place on October 2 when the woman booked an autorickshaw ride from Kyalasanahalli near Kothanur to Banaswadi.

"He updated that he had arrived at the location, but he was not at the pick-up point. After waiting for six to seven minutes, I took another auto and was about to leave when he arrived," the woman stated in her complaint.

Booked

She alleged that the suspect abused her and threatened her, demanding that she speak in Kannada. Based on her complaint, Kothanur police booked Pavan for offences including outraging the modesty of a woman, intentional insult with intent to provoke a breach of peace, and criminal intimidation under BNS.

A police officer investigating the case told *The Hindu* that the suspect claimed the woman kept changing the pick-up location and that the directions she gave were confusing. He further claimed that she cancelled the ride just as he was about to arrive.

Police have recorded his statement and are verifying his claims.

Your feedback will keep us Cleaner, Sharper and Bolder

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Scan the QR code to register your feedback

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CITY CORPORATION BELAGAVI

C.T.S. No. 4821/26, 4821/27, R.S. No. 1005, Subhasha Nagara, Belagavi, Ph. : 0831-2405304, E-mail : itstaff_ulb_belgaum@yahoo.com, Website : www.belgaumcity.mrc.gov.in

No. : C.C.B./P.W.D./E.E./D.M./TND/E-Proc-17/2025-26
Date : 10-10-2025

TENDER NOTIFICATION

The Commissioner, City Corporation Belagavi invites tenders in accordance with KTPP Act 1999 Rules 2000 through Karnataka Public Procurement Portal for **Total 16 Numbers of Works i.e. S.C. Category 02, Category 2A - 02 & General 12 Work approved under Amrut 2.0 & Corporation Fund.**

1) Last date for Queries : 17-10-2025 upto 5.00 p.m., 2) Pre-Bid Meeting Date : 18-10-2025 at 11.00 a.m. in Office of the Commissioner, City Corporation Belagavi, 3) Last Date for receipt of Tender : 27-10-2025 upto 4.00 p.m., 4) Date for Opening of Technical Bid : 29-10-2025 at 11.00 a.m. in Office of the Commissioner, City Corporation Belagavi, 5) Date for Opening of Financial Bid : 31-10-2025 at 11.00 a.m. in Office of the Commissioner, City Corporation Belagavi.

For more details visit online **Website : https://www.kppp.karnataka.gov.in.** Any Addendum / Corrigendum will be published in Karnataka Public Procurement Portal only.

Sd/- Commissioner, City Corporation Belagavi.

DIPR/Belagavi/1166/Manipal/2025-26

CITY MUNICIPAL COUNCIL, RANEBENNUR

District Haveri Pin 581115 State Karnataka

No/CMC/PWD/CR-14/2025-26 DATED: 09-10-2025

TENDER NOTIFICATION

(through e-procurement portal)

Karnataka Transparency in Public Procurement Ordinance 1999-2000 Act 2000 as per Standard Tender Document Rules under Restricted under **2025-26 MUNICIPAL FUND** in Total **Rs.66.30** lakhs Indent No. **DMA/2025-26/EL/WORK_INDENT 50125 01 Package work** The undersigned invites tender through e-procurement portal from qualified contractors registered with Karnataka Public Works Department for the works in **Two Cover** format. In Annexure KW-3 A Eligible Contractors E- Procurement Website www.kppp.karnataka.gov.in can participate in the tender and publication details on the website of the municipal office **http//www.ranebennurcity.mrc.gov.in** Available in For more details information can be obtained from Municipal Council office hours and e-Procurement Assistant Phone No.: +91-46010000 +91-8068948777.

Note: 1) In case of any change in the estimated amount, tendered amount mentioned before the above work, the tendered amount mentioned in the tender document will be final. 2) Any change in the following dates shall be noted in the e-procurement portal and no announcements shall be issued.

Last Date & Time for Enquire for Tender :	**24-10-2025 Time: 16.30**
Last date and time for submission of tender :	**24-10-2025 Time: 17.30**
Techninical Bid Tender Opening Date & Time :	**27-10-2025 Time: 11.30**
Financial Bid Tender Opening Date & Time : or after approval by competent authority	**29-10-2025 Time: 11.30**

Sd/- President, Standing Committee, City Municipal Council, Ranebennur
Sd/- Municipal Commissioner, City Municipal Council, Ranebennur

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PERSONAL

CHANGE OF NAME

I, VIJAYKUMAR, s/o:Narayanrao, r/o:Canopy Crest IRS Apts, DS–502, 5th Flr, Maruthi Nagar, Kogilu Main Road, Blr 560064, Have Changed My Name As Vijaykumar Gai Vide Afdvt Dtd on 08/10/2025

PUBLIC NOTICE

IN THE COURT OF THE SUBORDINATE JUDGE AT ARAKKONAM

OS.No. 02/2025

V. Mahendhiran ...Plaintiff
-Versus-
G. Vijayakumar ...Defendant

To:
G. Vijayakumar S/o. Govindaraj
No.21, 2nd Cross 6th Block,
Rajaji Nagar, Bangalore,
Karnataka State - 560010.

Whereas the above Named Plaintiff Suit against you under Order VII Rule 1 CPC, Please Take summon that the above Original Suit Case **OS.No.02/2025** is posted for your appearance on **16.10.2025** at about 10.30 am Hrs the above said please be present before court on the day, failing which the matter will be decided in your absence.

B.GOKULNATH, B.Com., BL.,
Advocate
No.47/5, Sannathi Street,
Sholinghur - 631102.
Cell: 8220347454, 9092310595

LEGAL NOTICE

IN THE COURT OF THE HONBLE SUBORDINATE JUDGE AT ARUPPUKOTTAI, TAMILNADU
O.S. NO. 227/2024

Dharmar,
S/o.Periakaruppan chettiar,
Thummuchinnampatti Village,
Aruppukottai Taluk,
and 6 others - Plaintiffs
-vs-
1. **Yuverani Himansukumari,** W/o. M.K.Raghubir Singhji, Devi Niwas, Kadugodi, Bangaluru-560607.
2. Miss.**Yoshinikumari,** D/o.K.K.Daivat Singhji, Devi Niwas, Kadugodi, Bangaluru-560607.
3. **Siddarth,** S/o.Maj.M.Nanu, Devi Niwas, Red cross Road, Payyambalam, Kannur, Bangaluru-560607.
4. **Kavirani Kirthikumari,** W/o.K.K.Daivat Singhji, Devi Niwas, Kaduoodi, Bangaluru-560 607

1,2,5 and 6 Defendant's.

Take Notice that the above said plaintiffs have filed suit for Declaration and Injunction as against properties mentioned in the Plainft, and also to declare the sale deeds dated 5.4.1995 Document Nos. 337/1995, 341/1995, 325/1995 and 343/1995 of Pandalkudi Sub-Registrar office as Null and void. The said suit posted on 25.10.2025 for appearance of above said Defendants. You all should appear at 10.00 A.M. before the Court on 25.10.2025, failing which you will be set exparty and matter will be decided in your absence.

N. SOLAIRAJ, B.Com., B.L..
ADVOCATE
39/3, PILLAIMAR STREET
ARUPPUKOTTAI - 626 101

TENDERS

THE TRAVANCORE SUGARS & CHEMICALS LTD.
(A Kerala Government Company)
Valanjavattom P.O., Thiruvalla, Kerala - 689 104
Tele: Office: 0469-2610711, 2610712, 2610446
Email: travancoresugars65@gmail.com
Website: www.travancoresugars.com

TENDER NOTICE

E-Tenders (https://etenders.kerala.gov.in) are invited for the Supply, installation and Commissioning of Fire and Safety Yard Hydrant at the premises of the Company and KSBC Godown. **E-tender id: 2025_TSC_805905_1**

Last Date of Submission is - **13.10.2025 at 3.40 PM.**

For more details contact office/website.

Thiruvalla Sd/-
06.10.2025 **General Manager (I/C)**

KARNATAKA STATE SEEDS CORPORATION LIMITED

(Government of Karnataka Undertaking)
"Beeja Bhavana", Ballari Road, Hebbal, Bengaluru-560 024.
Ph: 080 - 23415652 / 23415656. Fax: 080-23415895
No: KSSC/IA&Vig/114 Vol-IV/3118/2025-26 Date: 09.10.2025

EXPRESSION OF INTEREST FOR APPOINTMENT OF INTERNAL AUDITORS FOR THE FINANCIAL YEAR 2025 - 26 ON HALF YEARLY BASIS

Karnataka State Seeds Corporation Ltd., **"Beeja Bhavana"**, Ballari Road, Hebbal, Bengaluru - 560024 is intended for Expression of Interest from the Chartered Accountants/Cost Accountants Firms for Internal Audit of the Company Accounts of Head Office and Branch offices in Karnataka for the year 2025 - 26 on half yearly basis.

1. Last date for submission of tender through e-Procurement is on **31.10.2025 at 5.00 p.m.**
2. Date of opening of Technical Bid is on **03.11.2025 at 11.00 a.m** at Registered Office and opening of Commercial Bid will be intimated later.
3. More informations can be obtained from the e-procurement website at **https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in**

Sd/- Managing Director.

GOVERNMENT OF KARNATAKA

(Infrastructure Development, Ports and Inland Water Transport Department)

Karnataka Maritime Board

Office of the Executive Engineer, Port & Fisheries Division
Shamili Hall, 2nd Floor, Ambalapady, Udupi - 576103
Tel. No.: 0820-2532961 E-mail: pfdudupi@gmail.com

No. EE: P&F :DVN:Udupi:AE:Tender Notification-12/2025-26 Dt: 09.10.2025

Invitation for Tenders (IFT)

Tender Notification

On behalf of Governor of Karnataka, "Supply Installation and Surveillance system with 3 months recording at Malpe Fishing Harbour in Udupi Taluk and District (Tender Amount Rs. 61.98 Lakhs) Tenders are invited in E-Procurement to execute the works. To participate in E-Procurement and for more information may be obtained in (http://kppp.karnataka.gov.in) website. Last date for Tender Submission is 24-10-2025 at 5.00 p.m. For further extension refer above mentioned website. No separate paper notification will be issued.

Sd/-, Executive Engineer
Port and Fisheries Division, Udupi

GOVERNMENT OF KARNATAKA

BENGALURU URBAN ZILLA PANCHAYATH

Olo Executive Engineer,
Panchayath Raj Engineering Division, First Floor,
Zilla Panchayat Building, S. Kariyappa Road,
Banashankari (Near Banashankari Temple), Bengaluru 560070.
Phone No: 080-26716046 Website: http://kppp.karnataka.gov.in

No.EE/PRED/BNG(U)/TND/AE-1/19/2025-26 Dated: 09.10.2025

KPPP Tender Notice (Single Cover System) TENDER NOTIFICATION

Tenders are invited through KPPP Portal by the Executive Engineer, P.R.E.D. Bangalore Urban, For MLA, MWD, 4202 Additional Construction Grants Works. The work details can obtained from the KPPP Web Site The Tender Documents can be obtained and submitted on or before Dated:**28.10.2025** upto **4.00** pm. Further details can be obtained from web site at **http://www.KPPP.karnataka.gov.in** or contact this office during office working hours.

Sd/-
Executive Engineer
Panchayath Raj Engineering Division,
Bangalore Urban Dist, Bangalore.

DIPR/CP/3182/SSC/2025-26

BANGALORE DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY

T. Chowdaiah Road, Kumara Park West, Bengaluru - 560 020

No.: BDA/EE-NPKL/Work_TN_758/2025-26 Date: 08.10.2025

INVITATION FOR SHORT-TERM TENDER (Call-2)

(Through GoK e-procurement platform https:/kppp.karnataka.gov.in) Item Rate tender is invited through e-procurement tendering system for the following work by the Executive Engineer, BDA, Bengaluru on behalf of The Commissioner, BDA, Bengaluru from contractors registered as Class-III and above contractors or equivalent in KPWD/BDA/NH/MES/ Railways. Name of the work: **Providing Chain Link Fencing for Reserved CA area in Sy.No.175 and 83 (B3-CA-3) of Block 3 Ramasandra Village in NPKL (Work_Indent_No.: BDA/2025-26/OW/WORK_INDENT150) (Call-2)** Approx. cost put to tender: **Rs. 25.59 Lakhs.** EMD: **Rs. 0.52 lakhs.** Tender Processing Fee: **As per e-procurement portal.** Time for completion: **3 Months (including Monsoon).** Last date and time for receipt of Tenders: **18.10.2025 at 16:00 Hrs.** For further details, please log on to **https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in**

Sd/-Executive Engineer,
NPKL Division, BDA, Bengaluru

PUBLIC NOTICE

This is to inform the General Public that our client have negotiated to purchase the **Schedule Property** from its present owners **1) Mr. D. SRINIVASAN, 2) Mrs. D.MEERA, 3)Mr.D.KRISHNAMURTHY and 4)Mrs.RUKMINI.D,** all are children of Late Doraiswamy.R(Alias Doraiswamy Ramanujaiyer and Doraiswamy Ramanujiah),**who have inherited the same from their Father under a Registered Will Dated 05-05-2018.**

Any person/s having or claiming any manner of right, title, claim lien or interest in the Schedule Property may intimate the same in writing to the undersigned along with documentary evidence in support of their claim **within 10 days** from the date of this publication, failing which, our client will be advised to proceed with the conveyance as if no valid claims are subsisting against the Schedule Property.

SCHEDULE PROPERTY

All that piece and parcel of the Residential House Property bearing No.63/1, (Portion of Property bearing No.63), **BBMP PID No.92-112-63/1, Ward No.92, Situated at Patel Gundappa Block, 3rd Cross, J.C. Nagar, Bangalore-560 006, Measuring East to West : 30 Feet and North to South : (37+38.3)/2 Feet, Totally Measuring 1129.5 Square Feet** and bounded on the:

East by : Property of Sri. Narayana and Sampath;
West by : Road;
North by : Property of Sri. Srinivasa Murthy;
South by : Property of Sri. Abib Beguam.

S.A.H. RAZVI & ARIF PASHA
No.60, 2nd floor, M.M. Complex, Chinnaswamy Mudaliar Road, Tasker Town Bangalore-560 051 Mob: **9845049766 / 9243132714**
Dated: 11.10.2025 Bangalore

PUBLIC NOTICE

We are undertaking a title investigation on the immovable property bearing Survey No. 84/4 measuring 1 Acre 05 Guntas (excluding 2 Guntas of 'B' Kharab), situated at Thammarasanahalli Village, Sulibele Hobli, Hosakote Taluk and Bangalore Rural District (more fully described in the '**Schedule**' hereto and hereinafter referred to as '**Schedule Property**'). The said title due diligence is being conducted for and on behalf of our Client who is desirous of entering into a sale transaction in relation to the Schedule Property. Mr. Ismail Rahimathulla (son of Mr. Rahimathulla Khan) ('**Owner**') has represented to our Client that he is the owner of the Schedule Property and has unrestricted rights of alienation over the same. The Owner has further represented that he has agreed to convey the Schedule Property in favour of Mr. S.M. Yassar Shaffaf (son of Mr. Syed Fakruddin) ('**Agreement Holder**').

Notice is hereby given to the general public that any person/s other than the Owner and Agreement Holder, asserting any right, title, charge, lien, claim/s or any interest whatsoever in respect of the Schedule Property are hereby called upon to submit to the undersigned, their claim/s, if any, over the Schedule Property or submit their objections, if any, to the aforementioned transaction. The said claim/s or objections must be in writing, together with documentary proof to support such claim/s or objections, and must be delivered to us at the address given below within a period of **10 (ten) days** from the date of publication of this Notice. If no such claim/s or objections are received, it shall be deemed that no one else other than the Owner and Agreement Holder has/have any right, title, interest or claim whatsoever in respect of the Schedule Property and our Client would be at liberty to proceed with the said transaction in connection with the Schedule Property.

SCHEDULE
(Description of the Schedule Property)

All that piece and parcel of immovable property bearing Survey No. 84/4 measuring 01 Acre 05 Guntas (excluding 2 Guntas of 'B' Kharab), situated at Thammarasanahalli Village, Sulibele Hobli, Hosakote Taluk and Bangalore Rural District. The Schedule Property is bounded as follows:

East by : Portion of Land bearing Survey No. 84/1;
West by : Portion of Land bearing Survey No. 84/1;
North by : Lands bearing Survey Nos. 47 and 48; and
South by : Lands bearing Survey Nos. 85 and 86.

Sd/-
Mr. Srinivas B.R., Partner
DSK Legal,
Prestige Loka, No. 201, 2nd Floor, No. 7/1 & 7/7,
Brunton Road, Bengaluru – 560025, Tel: 080-69548770.

Place : Bangalore
Date : 11.10.2025

PUBLIC NOTICE

My Client intends to purchase the property more particularly described in the Schedule hereunder from its present owners **Mrs. LALITHA,** wife of late Sri.K.N. Murthy, No.7/2, AMCO Layout, Narayanappa Badavane, Rajivgandhinagar, 1st Phase, Kodigehalli, Bangalore North, Bangalore 560 092, **Mr. K.N. GANGARAJU,** son of late Sri.K.M.Narayanappa, No.26, Gangaraju Building, AMCO Layout, Kodigehalli, Bangalore North, Bangalore 560 092 and **Mr. UMESH K,** son of late Sri.Krishnappa, No.7/2-R-102, AMCO Layout, Thimmaiah Layout, Kodigehalli, Bangalore North, Bangalore 560 092, who have represented that they have clear and marketable title to the same. Any person/s, financial institutions and statutory authorities who claims any right, title or interest of any nature in or any lien, charge or enforceable right in relation to the Schedule Property and/or has any objections of any nature to the aforesaid transaction should lodge such claim and/or objections in writing to the undersigned together with supporting documents within Fifteen (15) days hereof, failing which it will be presumed that no valid claims or objections subsist and my clients would proceed to complete the transaction with the present owner thereof subject to compliance with other statutory and legal formalities.

SCHEDULE PROPERTY

All that piece and parcel of the undeveloped residentially converted land measuring an extent of about 29 Guntas comprised in Sy.No.193/3 of Kodigehalli Village, Yelahanka - 3 Hobli, Bangalore North (Addl) Taluk, Bangalore Urban District (converted vide Official Memorandum bearing No.766979, dated:21/06/2025 issued by the Deputy Commissioner, Bangalore District, Bangalore, presently under the jurisdiction of the Greater Bengaluru Authority and bounded on the:

East by : Sy.Nos.193/2 and 193/6 followed by Road of Kodigehalli Village
West by : Sy.No.193/4 of Kodigehalli Village
North by : Sy.No.192 of Kodigehalli Village
South by : Sy.No.193/5 of Kodigehalli Village

ARVIND RAGHAVAN ADVOCATE
#48, "ISHITHA",
2nd Main Road, Vyalikaval
Bangalore - 560 003

Place: Bangalore
Date: 11/10/2025.

OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR GENERAL, MEDICAL EDUCATION & TRAINING

Uttar Pradesh, 6th Floor, Jawahar Bhawan, Lucknow

No. ME-3/2025/2459 Lucknow : Dated 10/10/2025

REVISED TIME SCHEDULE FOR "THIRD ROUND" OF UP NEET UG COUNSELING 2025 (M.B.B.S./B.D.S.)

In accordance with the REVISED schedule issued by the Medical Counseling Committee (MCC). New Delhi for the NEET UG course, the revised schedule for the third round of online counseling for admission to state quota seats in undergraduate courses (MBBS/BDS) in government/ private medical/dental colleges/institutions/medical universities is as follows:-

S.No.	Description	Dates	Total Days
1.	Date of online registration and uploading of documents	From : 06.10.2025 (11:00 AM) To : 13.10.2025 (11:00 AM)	07 days
2.	Date of depositing registration and security money	From : 6.10.2025 (11:00 AM) To : 13.10.2025 (02:00 PM)	08 days
3.	Date of Merit List Declaration	On : 13.10.2025	01 day
4.	Date of On-line Choice filling	From : 14.10.2025 (02:00 PM) To : 17.10.2025 (11:00 AM)	03 days
5.	Date of Allotment Result Declaration	On : 18/19.10.2025	01 day
6.	Date for downloading the allotment letters & Admission	From : 24.10.2025 to 28.10.2025	05 days

- As per the instructions contained in the government order/brochure of UP NEET UG 2025, candidates should assess their eligibility themselves.
- Only those candidates will be eligible for choice filling who have completed the online registration process, whose original documents have been verified online, and who have deposited the required security amount.
- The UP NEET UG 2025 information booklet (brochure) and important instructions are available on the websites www.upneet.in and www.dgme.up.gov.in, keep checking website regularly for updated information
- The said counseling will be subject to the final orders passed by the Hon'ble Hight Court, Allahabad, Lucknow Bench, in Special Appeal No. 295/2025, Uttar Pradesh State & Others vs. Sabra Ahmad.
- Help Line Numbers - 8189011696, 8189011697, 8189011698, 8189011699, 8189011700

Director General
Medical Education & Training, UP

ಕರ್ನಾಟಕ ಸರಕಾರ

ಸರಕಾರಿ ಲೇಡಿಗೋಶನ್ ಆಸ್ಪತ್ರೆ, ಮಂಗಳೂರು-575001, ದ.ಕ. ಜಿಲ್ಲೆ

ದೂರವಾಣಿ ಸಂಖ್ಯೆ: 0824-2445611

ಕ್ರ.ಸಂಖ್ಯೆ:ಸ(2)36/2025-26 ದಿ: 09-10-2025

ಅಲ್ಪಾವಧಿ ಮರು ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಅಧಿಸೂಚನೆ

ವಿಷಯ: 2025-26 ನೇ ಸಾಲಿಗೆ 18 ಗ್ರೂಪ್ 'ಡಿ' ಹುದ್ದೆ ಹಾಗೂ 18 ನಾನ್ ಕ್ಲಿನಿಕಲ್ ಹುದ್ದೆಯ ಸೇವೆಯನ್ನು ಪಡೆಯಲು ಅಲ್ಪಾವಧಿ ಮರು ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಆಹ್ವಾನಿಸುವ ಕುರಿತು.

ಕೆ.ಟಿ.ಪಿ.ಪಿ. ಅಧಿನಿಯಮ 1999, ನಿಯಮಗಳು 2000 ರಂತೆ ನೋಂದಾಯಿತ ಹೊರ ಸಂಪನ್ಮೂಲ ಏಜೆನ್ಸಿ ಮುಖಾಂತರ 2025-26 ನೇ ಸಾಲಿನ ಅವಧಿಗೆ ಸರಕಾರಿ ಲೇಡಿಗೋಶನ್ ಆಸ್ಪತ್ರೆ, ಮಂಗಳೂರು, ಇಲ್ಲಿಗೆ 18 ಗ್ರೂಪ್ 'ಡಿ' ಹುದ್ದೆ ಹಾಗೂ 18 ನಾನ್ ಕ್ಲಿನಿಕಲ್ ಹುದ್ದೆಗಳ ಸೇವೆಯನ್ನು ಪಡೆಯಲು ದ್ವಿ-ಬಿಡ್ ಪದ್ಧತಿಯಲ್ಲಿ **KPP Portal** ಮೂಲಕ ಅಲ್ಪಾವಧಿ ಮರು ಟೆಂಡರ್‌ನ್ನು ಆಹ್ವಾನಿಸಲಾಗಿದೆ. ಆಸಕ್ತ ನೋಂದಾಯಿತ ಸಂಸ್ಥೆಯವರು ಇ-ಟೆಂಡರ್‌ನಲ್ಲಿ ಭಾಗವಹಿಸಬಹುದು. ಹೆಚ್ಚಿನ ಮಾಹಿತಿಗಾಗಿ **Karnataka public procurement** ಪೋರ್ಟಲ್‌ನ ವೆಬ್‌ಸೈಟ್: **https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in** ನಲ್ಲಿ ವೀಕ್ಷಿಸಬಹುದು.

(1) ಟೆಂಡರ್‌ಗಳನ್ನು ಅಪ್ ಲೋಡ್ ಮಾಡಲು ಪ್ರಾರಂಭ ದಿನಾಂಕ: 09-10-2025
(2) ಟೆಂಡರ್‌ಗಳನ್ನು ಅಪ್‌ಲೋಡ್ ಮಾಡಲು ಅಂತಿಮ ದಿನಾಂಕ: 17-10-2025 ಅಪರಾಹ್ನ 4.00 ರ ವರೆಗೆ (3) ತಾಂತ್ರಿಕ ಬಿಡ್‌ಗಳನ್ನು ತೆರೆಯುವ ದಿನಾಂಕ: 18-10-2025 (ಆಥವಾ ಅಂತಿಮ ದಿನಾಂಕದಂದು ಆಕಸ್ಮಿಕವಾಗಿ ಸರ್ಕಾರಿ ರಜೆ ಘೋಷಣೆಯಾದರೆ ಮರುದಿನ ಸರ್ಕಾರಿ ಕೆಲಸದ ದಿನದಂದು ಬಿಡ್‌ಗಳನ್ನು ತೆರೆಯಲಾಗುವುದು)

ಸಹಿ/- ವೈದ್ಯಕೀಯ ಅಧೀಕ್ಷಕರು
ಸರಕಾರಿ ಲೇಡಿಗೋಶನ್ ಆಸ್ಪತ್ರೆ, ಮಂಗಳೂರು

DIPR/ADM/KSMCA/926/25-26 dt: 10.10.2025

ಕರ್ನಾಟಕ ಸರ್ಕಾರ GOVERNMENT OF KARNATAKA

BALLARI MEDICAL COLLEGE AND RESEARCH CENTRE, BALLARI.

Reg.No:205/1995-96-Recognized by Medical Council of India, New Delhi vide No:MCI-57(3)/79-Med/1912, Dtd.16-04-1979 &Endst. No.MCI-37(1)(Recog.-18)(UG)/2017-Med./109629, Dt: 06/05/2019
DIRECTOR: 8147796529 PRINCIPAL :8147796527
CAO:8147796526 PA : 8147796539.
e-mail-ids:directorvimsbellary@gmail.com, website : https://vims.karnataka.gov.inprincipalbmcrcballari@gmail.com

No.BMCRC/STD/Fellowship/NC/Oph/476/2024-25
Date: 06.10.2025

Walk in interview
Fellowship in Cornea and Refractive Surgery

Interested candidates can apply for Fellowship in Cornea and Refractive Surgery course recognized by RGUHS in this institute.

Eligibility:- Recognized MS Ophthalmology / DNB Ophthalmology. **Date of interview:** 13.10.2025. **Time:** 10.00 A.M onwards. **Number of seats:** 02 for each academic year. **Duration of the course:-** 18 months. **Venue:** Dean and Director office BMCRC Ballari

Documents required: 1.10th Marks Card. 2.12th Marks Card. 3.1st MBBS To Final Year MBBS Marks Card. 4.MBBS Degree Certificate. 5.Attempt Certificate. 6.CRHS certificate. 7.Post graduate degree certificate. 8.Post graduate attempt certificate. 9.Post Graduate Marks Card. 10.State medical council registration Certificate. 11.Caste Certificate. 12.Income certificate. 13.Transfer certificate. 14.Eligibility Certificate (for candidates studied outside RGUHS, Bengaluru). 15.Migration certificate.(not required for those who have produced Eligibility certificate of RGUHS). 16.Physical Handicap certificate (if applicable). 17.UG Recognition certificate. 18.PG Recognition certificate. 19.Five Passport size photo (Name and roll number should mentioned in the photo). 20.Soft copy of all the above documents (1 to 20) in separate single PDF format along with passport size photo in JPG format in Pen Drive to be submitted. 21.Kindly bring one single file separately. 22.Two self-attested xerox copies of all the documents along with one single file to keep their original documents to be submitted. 23.If the candidate fails to produce any documents the admission to such candidate will not done by this institute. 24.Fee of the institute as per RGUHS norms. 25.Stipend will be given as per Government of Karnataka.

Sd/- Dean & Director, BMCRC, Ballari
DIPR/Ballari/504/KSMCA/2025-26

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MEGA E-AUCTION SALE NOTICE

(UNDER SARFAESI ACT 2002)

Whereas, the Authorized Officer of Central Bank of India had taken possession of the following schedule mentioned properties on the dates mentioned below, under sec. 13(4) of the Securitization and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002, pursuant to the demand notice dated as mentioned below, issued under Sec 13(2) of the said Act, in the following loan accounts with right to sell the same for realization of Bank's dues plus interest as detailed hereunder. And whereas consequent upon failure to repay the dues by the borrower / guarantor / mortgagor, the undersigned, in exercise of powers conferred under Section 13(4) (a) of the Said Act read with rule 8 and 9 of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002 proposes to realize the Bank's dues by sale of the said properties. The Sale will be done by the undersigned through e-auction platform provided at the **website : https://baanknet.com**

Branch : Hosur Branch. Name of the Loan Account : Borrower : M/s. Luxrus Ceramic Solutions Pvt Ltd - Represented by its Directors (1) Mrs.Manimozhi Ulaganathan, W/o.Mr.Parthiban Palanivel, (2) Mr.Parthiban Palanivel, S/o.Chinnagounder Palanivel, No.23, Opp.N.M.D.C. Government Office, Kanakapura Main Road, Basavanagudi, Bangalore - 560004. **Director and Guarantors: (1) Mrs.Manimozhi Ulaganathan, W/o.Mr.Parthiban Palanivel, Director : Luxrus Ceramic Solutions Pvt Ltd,** Door No.5, Muthukallipatty (P.O), Rasipuram (TK), Namakkal District - 637401, Tamilnadu. Current Address : 359, 4th Cross, South Avenue Layout, Gottigere (V), Bangalore - 560083. **(2) Mr.Mr.Parthiban Palanivel, S/o.Mr.Chinnagounder Palanivel, Director : Luxrus Ceramic Solutions Pvt Ltd,** Door No.5, Muthukallipatty (P.O), Rasipuram (TK), Namakkal District - 637401, Tamilnadu. Current Address : 359, 4th Cross, South Avenue Layout, Gottigere (V), Bangalore - 560083 **Amount Due : Rs.6,11,08,563.00 as on 06.10.2025** and interest plus other charges thereon. **Demand Notice Date : 07.07.2021. Physical Possession taken on : 21.09.2021. Description of the Immovable Property : Schedule A :** Within the limits of Bruhuth Bangalore Mahanagar Palike, Anjanapura Sub Division, Ward No.194, Layout known as South Avenue, Gottigere Village, Uttarahalli Hobli, Bangalore South Taluk, Katha No.1579/4196/279, Old Nos.1579/276/279 + 1576/4197/280 + 1567/4198/281, Site Nos.279, 280 and 281. Extent : 3702 Sq.ft (975 + 1249 + 1478). Boundaries : East : Park, West : Site No.282, North : Road, South : Private Property. **Schedule B : (1)** Flat bearing Katha No.1579/4196/279/F-1, Constructed on First Floor of Schedule A Property having super Built-up area of 2600 sq.ft and Un-divided share of 1149 sq.ft in Schedule A Property, along with Car parking in the Stilt Floor, in the residential building by name "MADURA YUGO". **Reserve Price : Rs.1,17,00,000.00. EMD : Rs.11,70,000/-. Bid Increase Amount : Rs.1,00,000/-.**

(2) Flat bearing Katha No.1579/4196/279/F-2, Constructed on First Floor of Schedule A Property having super Built-up area of 3000 sq.ft and Un-divided share of 1332 sq.ft in Schedule A Property, along with Car parking in the Stilt Floor, in the residential building by name "MADURA YUGO". **The above Property belongs to Mrs.Manimozhi Ulaganathan. Reserve Price : Rs.1,33,50,000.00 . EMD : Rs.13,35,000/-. Bid Increase Amount : Rs.1,00,000/-.**

Date of Auction : 27.10.2025. Time of Auction : 11.00 AM to 4.00 PM with auto extension of 10 minutes. Date of Inspection of the Property : On all working days between 13.10.2025 and 24.10.2025 between 10 AM and 4 PM with the prior appointment of branch manager. Last Date of Remitting EMD : 27.10.2025 upto 1.00 PM. Authorized Officer - Mobile No : 8489903009 / Chief Manager (RO) - Mobile No : 8489903057

TERMS & CONDITIONS : 1. The auction sale will be online E-Auction/Bidding through website **https://baanknet.com** the above specified date & time (with unlimited auto extension of 5 minutes till the conclusion of sale). **2.** Bids shall be submitted through online on or before **27.10.2025 upto 1.00 p.m. 3.** The E-Auction is being held on "AS IS WHERE IS BASIS". **4.** Intending bidders are required to go through the website **https://baanknet.com** for detailed terms and conditions of auction sale before submitting their bids and taking part in the e-auction sale proceedings. **5.** Successful bidder/purchaser will remit TDS @ 1% on sale proceeds on immovable property/ies of value Rs.50.00 lacs and above as per Sec 194 IA of the income tax Act 1961 and deposit the same by furnishing the challan in Form 26QB and submit the Original receipt of TDS Certificate to Bank. **6.** For further any property related query may contact **Authorized Officer - Mobile No : 8489903009 / Chief Manager (RO) - Mobile No : 8489903057, Central Bank of India, Regional Office, Coimbatore, E-Mail Ids: bmcoim2071@centralbank.co.in / recvcoimro@centralbank.co.in** during office hours during the working days and after Registration by the bidder in the web portal, intending bidder/purchaser is required to get the copies of the following documents uploaded in Web Portal before last date of submission of the bid viz 1) Copy of NEFT/RTGS Challan, 2) Copy of PAN Card, 3) Identification (KYC) viz self attested copy of Voter ID Card / Driving Licence / Passport etc., 4) Copy of proof of address, without which the bid is liable to be rejected.

Date : 06.10.2025
Place : Hosur

Authorised officer
Central Bank of India

N BG-BGE

GETTY IMAGES

Calm after the storm: how Stephen Lee is rebuilding his life after a decade of darkness

Among snooker's brightest stars at the turn of the millennium, Lee, who went on to be ranked as high as five, was handed a lengthy ban for match-fixing. The Englishman, who has long-maintained his innocence, has no interest in returning as a professional but wants to shape the lives of the next generation of cueists

Ashwin Achal

Stephen Lee was at the centre of a storm in 2013. The English professional snooker player was handed a 12-year ban – backdated to 2012 – after being found guilty of seven match-fixing charges by the World Professional Billiards and Snooker Association (WPBSA), the sport's governing body.

At the time, this was the harshest punishment imposed in the sport, until the lifetime bans given to Liang Wenbo and Li Hang in 2023 (for match-fixing and other charges). Lee, who was 38 when he took this massive blow, was also ordered to pay £40,000 in costs, which eventually went up to more than £100,000.

It was a sad end to a professional career which had reached impressive heights. An impulsive potter who could make the white ball dance to his tune, thanks to an aesthetic 'Rolls Royce' cue action, Lee won five ranking titles, the last of which came at the 2012 Players Tour Championship Finals.

Rising star

Early signs of his exceptional talent were seen in the 1999 Millennium Cup held in Hong Kong, when Lee whipped world-beaters Marco Fu (5-0), Stephen Hendry (6-1) and Ronnie O'Sullivan (7-2) en route the title.

> My wife stood by me. I looked at my kids' faces and realised that there is more to life. That's what spurred me on to come out and fight

Lee reached his career-best world ranking of five in the 2000-01 and 2003-04 seasons before suffering a dip in form between 2008 and 2010. Lee had just begun to regain his touch when the ban hit him hard.

Adam Lewis, the chairman of an independent tribunal which heard the case, noted that "as a weak man in a vulnerable position, Lee succumbed to temptation. I consider it unlikely that he was the prime mover or instigator of the activity. It seems to me likely that advantage was taken of him."

The rap sheet contained seven fixed outcomes, including a first round loss to Ryan Day at the 2009 World championship. Lee, meanwhile, maintained his innocence.

Forgetting the past

Now 50, the man from Trowbridge is in Bengaluru, competing in the Cue Sports Premier League (CSPL). The soft-spoken Lee is not shy to speak about his past. He vehemently denied the charges, pointing to the police investigation into match-fixing claims against him in 2010. These charges were subsequently dropped in 2012. "The police had looked into it for two years, and there was no money involved with their allegations," Lee said. "If I had done wrong and they found money everywhere, then yes, I am guilty. But there was no money. I lost my house, I lost my car. If I was match-fixing, I wouldn't have lost my house, I wouldn't have lost my car. I've seen the betting patterns but there was no money coming anywhere near me," he added.

During this tumultuous period, Lee relied on his wife, Laura, for support. "My wife stood by me. I looked at my kids' faces and realised that there is more to life. That is what spurred me on to come out and fight for everyone involved," he said.

ALLEN EGENUSE J

> I'm happy to help any player who wants some experience, wants to know how to strike the ball, and what it takes to be a professional

Lee alleged that an English national daily "told lies" about his case. He added that there is a plan to tell his version of the story in a book. "I'm going to have my say. I never had my say on how it made me feel, and what they had actually done to me as a person. At that time, I did not speak out because my wife did not want me to," he revealed.

No second wind

Lee's ban, incidentally, ended a year ago. There were rumours that he could make a comeback to the professional tour, but he has no intention to return to the grind.

"I played a match against James Wattana in Thailand a couple of months back and it went viral. I feel very humble about that," Lee said. "I lost my wife two years ago. She never wanted me to go back and play professional snooker. I've got zero interest in the World Snooker Tour. I'm going to do other things.

"I'm still able to enjoy playing snooker at a certain level. But I'm not silly enough to think I'm going back after 12 years. Twelve years is too long. I'm not prepared to waste any time battling it out in Q School (qualification tournaments). And working again for WPBSA does not appeal to me one bit. WPBSA never did anything for me as an association. They don't help players."

Lee is focused on his life in Thailand, where he coaches young talent. "I'm going to be helping the Thailand lads. I'm going to help the Chinese when I get my chance there. I'm happy to help any player who wants some experience, who wants to know how to strike the ball, and what it takes to be a professional. It would be nice to give back to the sport."

Lee explained that he recently received an invite to take on O'Sullivan in an exhibition match, an offer he politely declined. "I told the promoter that I couldn't beat Ronnie even in my heyday. And there's no chance I'm flying all the way out from Thailand."

Good tidings

Speaking about his time in the CSPL, Lee stated that he readily accepted the invite from his good friend, multiple-time world champion Pankaj Advani. "Pankaj is a really nice guy. He is a great ambassador for Indian snooker and billiards. There is a lot of love between me and him. In fact, everyone here has made me feel very welcome. I'm going to leave Bengaluru with some good friends," Lee gushed.

There was a shy smile when the Englishman was asked about his 'Rolls Royce' cue action. "That's very nice of you to say. I feel very humbled by that," he said.

The power and precision of a clean strike comes as a result of years of hard work. "You need to put in a lot of hours to understand the cue action. It's all about striking it with ease, not power. You must stay relaxed and strike through the ball as easy as you can. Of course, everyone's cue action is personal to them. There's not one cue action that works for all. A lot of players ask me for cue action tips, which feels very nice," he added.

Lee is a content man in this phase of his life, and speaks highly of his four children. "My son Alfie is with me. He's going into Chinese pool. He has also been playing some snooker in Bangkok. I've signed a few deals to do a few things in China. I've got a couple of my own little businesses. Things have changed. Yeah, I'm all good," Lee signed off.

GAME THEORY

The One-Day Titans

With Rohit Sharma and Virat Kohli set to play for India in ODIs as pure batters and not captains henceforth, here is a look at how good they have been since the start of 2022, when the former took over as full-time captain. Among those who have played 40 or more games, Kohli has the joint-highest number of centuries and the second-highest average while Rohit has the best strike-rate and most sixes.

Player	Mat	Inns	NO	Runs	HS	Ave	SR	100	50	4s	6s
Shubman Gill	52	52	8	2726	208	61.95	100.36	8	15	308	58
Virat Kohli	**48**	**45**	**6**	**2012**	**166***	**51.58**	**94.41**	**8**	**12**	**185**	**27**
Shreyas Iyer	48	45	5	2032	128*	50.80	99.85	4	14	181	55
Babar Azam	51	50	4	2306	151	50.13	84.46	5	20	220	27
Mohammad Rizwan	53	48	11	1849	131*	49.97	85.08	2	12	149	29
K.L. Rahul	47	42	11	1534	111*	49.48	87.10	2	9	121	31
Rohit Sharma	46	45	4	1963	131	47.87	116.84	3	15	213	100
David Miller	41	36	10	1244	101	47.84	112.27	2	8	95	52
Keacy Carty	40	37	5	1495	170	46.71	80.50	4	5	133	25
Pathum Nissanka	62	62	5	2660	210*	46.66	91.12	7	17	337	32

SOURCE: ESPNCRICINFO

PICTURE THIS

PTI

Twirling glory

Ecuador's Kiara Rodriguez showed why she was among the best in the business at the recently concluded World Para Athletics Championships in New Delhi.

The 22-year-old competed in women's T47 category, a classification for athletes with a single below-elbow or wrist amputation. Rodriguez has a deformity in her left arm, which denies her the optimum arm-swing essential to counterbalance the rotational motion of the legs.

But nothing could stop her from bagging a third straight 100m sprint and long jump double at the Worlds. Rodriguez also clinched the 200m title with a new record time, finishing in 24.34s, three-hundredths better than her own mark in the heats. The previous record (24.45s) was set by Cuba's Yunidis Castillo at the London 2012 Paralympics.

There was a time when the double act of excelling in sprints and long jump was fashionable. Remember Carl Lewis? It has mostly gone out of fashion in able-bodied sports, but on the other hand, Rodriguez, to her immense credit, is flying the flag high.

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MISSION ROAD	MYSORE ROAD	OLD MADRAS ROAD	SARJAPUR ROAD	WHITEFIELD	YESHWANTHPUR	YELAHANKA
91482 23170	96064 00760	78996 78300	96320 66733	89519 94664	91487 18080	91482 20870

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M BG-BGE

With no takers, uncertainty over Kannada medium engg. courses

Courses fail to attract students for the fourth year in a row; former VTU Vice-Chancellor's proposal to provide reservation in recruitment to various departments for those from Kannada medium, receives no response from the government

Jayanth R.
BENGALURU

No student has even given option entry to Kannada engineering courses during CET-2025 counselling this year. FILE PHOTO

Non-enrolment and lack of government support has cast a shadow on the Kannada-medium engineering courses, started under National Education Policy (NEP-2020) four years ago.

In the previous years, during the Common Entrance Test (CET) counselling, Kannada medium engineering courses were opted by a few students, even though they withdrew either while enrolling in the college or later. However, this year, no student has even given option entry to Kannada engineering courses during CET-2025 counselling.

This has led to doubts over whether Kannada engineering courses will continue, and Visvesvaraya Technological University (VTU) is mulling over withdrawing the course.

Speaking to *The Hindu*, S. Vidyashankar, Vice-Chancellor of VTU, said, "Even after four years of inception, no student has enrolled in this course. Some people who had enrolled in the previous years have withdrawn. Curriculum has also been framed in Kannada medium. A decision will be taken after discussing with the government whether to continue the course or not."

As per the recommendations of the NEP-2020, the All India Council for Technical Education (AICTE) decided to offer engineering education in regional languages and gave the provision for Civil and Mechanical engineering courses. VTU had translated all the course materials of Civil and Mechanical engineering courses from English to Kannada.

During the academic year of 2021-22, SJC Institute of Technology Chickballapur, Bheemanna Khandre Institute of Technology (BKIT), Bhalki, and three other private engineering colleges opted to offer Kannada medium engineering courses. Seventeen students opted for them.

But, all these students withdrew by the time of admission and joined regular engineering courses.

In the academic year of 2022-23, only SJCIT and BKIT expressed interest to offer the course. Among the 42 seats in Kannada medium Civil engineering, only one student had opted for the course. But, finally, he too withdrew his admission and joined the regular engineering course.

Of the total 24 Kannada medium mechanical engineering seats, no students showed interest in them.

During the CET 2024-25 counselling, two students opted for the Kannada-medium mechanical engineering course at MIT in Mysuru. While one withdrew from the course before joining the college, the other student took admission in the college and later withdrew and joined the English medium engineering course.

Need govt. support

Earlier, to encourage more people to opt for it, the then Vice-Chancellor of VTU Karisiddappa had submitted a proposal to the State government urging it to create jobs and reservation in the government engineering recruitment in various departments like PWD, Irrigation, KPTCL, BESCOM, BDA, BBMP and other local bodies for Kannada medium engineering graduates. But the proposal received no response.

"Unless job opportunities are created, there will be no scope for Kannada medium engineering courses. There is no course material for higher education or research in Kannada medium engineering and students willdepend on English course materials. Therefore, the government should take steps to attract students to these courses by providing job guarantees. Otherwise, there is no way other than closing the courses," said the principal of a government engineering college.

Members of civil society groups during a roundtable on the Special Intensive Revision of electtoral rolls in Bengaluru on Friday.

Civil society groups to launch campaign against SIR

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

Strongly opposing the Special Intensive Revision (SIR) which is set to be taken up in Karnataka, civil society groups have decided to launch a State-wide campaign titled 'My vote, my right' against the exercise.

A decision regarding the launching of the campaign was taken at a round table held in Bengaluru in which about 100 persons representing civil society organisations, political parties, trade unions, women's rights groups, concerned citizens, independent activists, writers and student groups participated.

Bihar example

Citing the SIR experience in Bihar where 68 lakh voters' names were deleted, Mr. Clifton D'Rozario, State Secretary of the CPI (ML) Liberation alleged that women, Dalits, Muslims and migrant workers were those who were affected by the SIR.

"Shockingly in Bihar, the ECI refused to accept widely-held identity documents. Most of the poor, non-literate, women, Dalits and Other Backward Classes did not possess the documents demanded by the ECI," he said.

Mr. Vinay Sreenivasa, who represented Bahutva Karnataka, said the entire basis of SIR followed the same logic as CAA-NRC. "Until 2023, the onus was on the Election Commission to prove that the voter is not eligible to vote before deleting his name. Under the proposed SIR, the onus is on the citizens to prove that they are eligible to vote. This will make citizens vulnerable to harassment and lead to mass disenfranchisement of the marginalised," he alleged.

Issues with ID

Mr. Sreenivasa said the Voter ID issued by the ECI was not a valid document in the new SIR process. Despite the challenge to CAA-NRC pending in the Supreme Court and nationwide protests, the ECI was attempting the same CAA-NRC under a different disguise as SIR, he alleged.

Indudara Honnapura, founder-member of DSS, observed that: "Voters choose their leaders, but now the Election Commission is taking it upon it to choose the voters."

'Govt should act'

Rizwan Khan, social activist from Ballari, suggested that the Congress government in Karnataka should be convinced to adopt a resolution in the State Assembly like Kerala against the SIR.

HC notice to govt. on plea alleging non-maintenance of Magadi fort

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

The petitioner pointed out that some portion of the moat of the Magadi fort is being destroyed due to building of a road. FILE PHOTO

The High Court of Karnataka on Friday ordered issue of notice to the State government on a PIL petition, which complained about neglect of authorities in protecting and maintaining Kempegowda Fort, built by city's founder Kempegowda during 17th century, at Magadi of Bengaluru South district.

State-owned monument

The fort and its moat are State-protected monuments under the provisions of the Karnataka Ancient and Historical Monuments and Archaeological Sites and Remains Act, 1961, and are coming under the purview of the State's Department of Archaeology, Museums and Heritage.

A Division Bench comprising Chief Justice Vibhu Bakhru and Justice C.M. Poonacha passed the order on the petition filed by H.M. Krishnamurthy, founder and president of Sri Kempegowda Abhivrudhi Samithi, Magadi taluk, Bengaluru South district.

There has been a total apathy and negligence on the part of authorities in protecting and maintaining the fort and the moat, the petitioner complained, while pointing out that no action has been taken to maintain the monument despite several representations to the authorities, including the local administrations, and holding demonstrations.

While several portions of fort are in a dilapidated condition, many areas of the fort and surrounding portions are used for dumping waste and for Sunday and sheep market, the petitioner complained, while also pointing out that some portion of the moat is being destroyed due to construction of a road, which is a blatant onslaught on the legacy of Kempegowda and amounts to erasing footprints of historical legacy.

'Direct authorities'

Complaining that failure to maintain the fort is threatening permanent damage to its structures, the petitioner has sought directions to the authorities to take immediate steps to protect and maintain the fort, removal encroachment of areas of the monument and constitute a committee of experts to oversea the conservation of the fort.

MSMEs are true partners in nation-building: Minister

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

Shobha Karandlaje

Medium, Small and Micro Enterprises (MSMEs) are the true partners in the development of the nation as they account for 40% of India's GDP, 40% of total exports, and 45% of total manufacturing output, said Shobha Karandlaje, Union Minister of State, Ministry of MSME, here on Friday.

Addressing a large audience of entrepreneurs, bankers, media representatives, and members of industry associations at MSME Marketing Conclave held at KASSIA here, she described MSMEs as "the true partners in the development of our nation," and also identified four major challenges faced by MSMEs as technology, finance, skilled labour, and marketing.

"Addressing these issues is crucial for sustaining India's economic growth and global competitiveness. And, rapid adoption of emerging technologies and innovation in manufacturing is required to keep pace with global trends. MSMEs often struggle to find markets for their products and, therefore, there should be focused efforts in branding, packaging, and export promotion," she added.

Speaking on the occasion, Chairman and Managing Director (CMD) of the National Small Industries Corporation (NSIC) Subhransu Sekhar Acharya said the success of a sustainable MSME sector rested on strengthening three key pillars – enterprise creation, capacity building and credit facilitation, and market linkage.

Mr. Sekhar said the Ministry of MSME had entrusted NSIC with managing a ₹10,000-crore Sovereign Fund of Funds for MSMEs, aimed at providing growth capital to enterprises that have exhausted their equity and collateral capacities, thus enabling them to raise additional debt and scale operations.

Bellad seeks probe into Hubballi event

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

Deputy Leader of the Opposition in the Assembly Arvind Bellad has written to the Chief Secretary demanding an inquiry and action against officials, while alleging that an official programme in Hubballi had been turned into a "Congress programme". In a social media post, he said Congress leaders had "hijacked" a public funded programmed. "Party banners on stage, Quran recitation in a government function, and officials behaving like Congress workers," he claimed.

Commuters upset over absence of a direct train from Karnataka to Rameswaram

Anil Kumar Sastry
MANGALURU

Despite completion of the new Pamban bridge, services between Karnataka and Rameswaram have not commenced. SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

Notwithstanding the inauguration of the new Pamban bridge connecting Mandapam on the mainland and Rameswaram on Pamban island in April and the subsequent statutory inspection of the 52-km electrified line, Karnataka does not have a direct train to Rameswaram, one of the 12 Jyotirlinga Peethas of India.

Prime Minister Narendra Modi inaugurated the 2.07 km-long new Pamban bridge, consisting of 100 spans, including the 72-m vertical central lifting section, on April 6.

Southern Railway's Principal Chief Electrical Engineer Ganesh conducted the statutory inspection of the electrified 52-km stretch between Ramanathapuram and Rameswaram stations in Madurai division on September 13. He also successfully conducted a high-speed trial run between the two stations.

The Mangaluru Central-Rameswaram Bi-weekly Express was approved by the Railway Board and notified as early as March 2024. While train operations to Rameswaram in Madurai division remained suspended from December 2022 following unsafe condition of the old Pamban bridge, the Southern Railway did not start the new service at all. There was no word on commencing the services even after inauguration of the new bridge, according to Yogendra Swamy from Mysuru Grahaka Parishat.

On the other hand, Train No. 07355/56 SSS Hubballi-Ramanathapuram-SSS Hubballi Weekly Special, introduced in 2022, continues to terminate at Ramanathapuram instead of running up to Rameswaram.

Train No. 06237/38 Mysuru-Ramanathapuram-Mysuru Weekly Special (going via Bengaluru), continues to operate only till Ramanathapuram, he added.

Mr. Swamy, a rail activist, said non-availability of services between Karnataka and Rameswaram was not a case of pending construction. The bridge was complete; the proposals and approvals exist, yet the services have not commenced.

He said while the Railways was quick to introduce a daily service between Tambaram-Chennai and Rameswaram upon the opening of the new bridge, passengers from Mangaluru, Mysuru and Hubballi continue to depend on connecting trains.

Pashchima Karavali Railway Yatri Abhivriddhi Samithi President G. Hanumanth Kamath noted that while people in coastal Karnataka were happy over the announcement of Mangaluru-Rameswaram bi-weekly express, its non-introduction even after a year has disappointed them.

Mr. Swamy said until trains actually run, approvals and announcements would remain little more than words on paper.

PUBLIC NOTICE

This is to inform to the General public/ Whomsoever it may concern that my client **SRI. CHANDRAPPA HONNALI** S/o Sri. Chikkappa Honnali, residing at No.92, 5th Main, 2nd Cross, Rukmini Nagar, Bengaluru North, Bengaluru-560 073, is intending to purchase the schedule property belonging to
(1) MISS.PACHAY LINGARAJ URS D/o Late.A. Lingaraj Urs and Late.Subbammanni,
(2) MISS.SUNANDA LINGARAJ URS D/o. Late. A. Lingaraj Urs and Late.Subbammanni,
(3) SRI.KRISHNE URS S/o. Late. A.Lingaraj Urs and Late.Subbammanni, **(4) SRI.JAGADISH L.URS** S/o. Late.Lingaraja Urs P.L.and Late.P.L. Kamalajammanni, **(5) SMT.SUMA.V.S.** W/o Jagadish L.Urs. **(6) MISS.SHAMITHA. J.** D/o. Jagadish L.Urs, **(7) MASTER.ATHISHAY J.** URS S/o Jagadish L.Urs, residing at No.905/19, 4th Main, 2nd Cross, Vidyaranyapuram, Mysuru-570 008. They represent that, they are the absolute owners and having clear and marketable title to the schedule property. Any persons, firm, institution including Financial institution claiming to have any right/ title/interest/ claims or enforceable right in the schedule property either as the owner or in any other manner of objection for such alienation may lodge their objections with documentary proof within 15 days from the date of publication of this notice, with the undersigned, failing which it will be presumed that no valid claims and objections subsist and thereafter my client shall proceed to complete the sale transaction with owner referred above.

SCHEDULE PROPERTY

All that piece and parcel of the Property bearing Site No.335 in the layout formed by Sree Gruhalakshmi Co-operative Housing Society Limited, carved out of land bearing Survey Nos. 1/1B, 2B, 2/1,2,3, 3/2B, 94/4, 95/1, 2, 96/1, 3, 4, 97/1,2,3, 98/1,2, 3, 112/1, 113/1, 2, 4, 114/1, 115/1, 2, 116, 117/1, 2, 118/2B,3, 119/1, 2, 120/2, 3, 121/1, 2, 3, 4, 122/2, 3, 5, 6 measuring total extent of 61 Acres and 33 guntas, presently BBMP EPID No. 9358816240, situated at NALLA KADIRENAHALLI VILLAGE, Yeshwanthapura Hobli, Bengaluru North Taluk, Bengaluru, BBMP WARD NO.41, measuring East to West : 40-0 (Forty) feet or 12.19 meters and North to South : 30-0 (Thirty) feet or 9.14 meters in all measuring 1,200 square feet (111.41 square meters) and bounded on :- **East by :** Site No.332, **West by :** Road, **North by :** Site No.334, **South by :** Site No.336.

N. MOHAN KUMAR Advocate
No.35, 1st Floor, 1st Block 5th Cross, Near Gandhinagar Higher Secondary School, Kumara Park West, Seshadripuram, Bengaluru -20 Ph:9731719219, email: mohankumar13783@gmail.com

COFFEE BOARD
(Ministry of Commerce & Industry, Govt. of India)
No.1, Dr. Ambedkar Veedhi, Bengaluru - 560 001.

TENDER NOTIFICATION - SECOND CALL

No. Adm/Engg/Coffee Board/Space for Rent/Dobbespet/2025-26/188 Dated.10.10.2025

Coffee Board is a Statutory Organization under the Ministry of Commerce & Industry, Department of Commerce, Government of India, intends to Letting out the space for Installation Coffee Roasting and Grinding Unit or any other Coffee Industry related works in the newly Constructed building at Plat No 320-P of Sompura 1st Stage, Karnataka Industrial Areas Development Board [KIADB], Near Dobbuspet, Nelamangala taluk, Bengaluru rural District Sealed tenders are invited in two cover system by the Coffee Board. For further details, visit **https://coffeeboard.gov.in.** The last date for submission of sealed tenders is on **23.10.2025** by **3:30 PM.** The date of opening of Technical bids is on **23.10.2025** at **4.00 PM.**

Sd/-
Joint Deputy Director (P&C)

IN THE COURT OF HON'BLE 74TH ADDL. CITY CIVIL AND SESSIONS JUDGE AT BENGALURU CCH-75
OS No. 25507/2025

PLAINTIFFS:
1.**Mr. Gautham B Nagaraj,** S/o Mr. H.L Nagaraja, Aged about 35 years, Residing at No. 212, 3rd Stage, 2nd Block, Basaveswaranagar Judge's Colony, BENGALURU – 79
2. **Mrs. Neha Nagaraj @ Neha Narendra Phulwani**, aged about 33 years, W/o Mr. Gautham B Nagaraj, Residing at No. 212, 3rd Stage, 2nd Block, Basaveswaranagar Judge's Colony, BENGALURU – 79
Rep by GPA holder Mr. H.L Nagaraja aged about 74years

V/S

DEFENDANTS
1. **Smt. N. Manjula** W/o Late B.C. Subramanyam B.E Major,
2. **Mrs. B.S. Ranjitha** S/o Late B.C. Subramanyam B.E Major,
Both residing at No. 36/1, Marenhalli, 34th Main Road, J.P.Nagar, 2nd Phase Bangalore- 560078.

NOTICE/SUMMONS TO THE DEFENDANT NO. 1 & 2

To,
WHEREAS, the above named plaintiff has instituted a suit for permanent injunction against both of you with respect to suit Schedule Properties mentioned below.
Both of you are hereby summoned to appear before this court **31th day of October 2025**, at 11 AM in person or through advocate/ pleader to answer the questions to the same. Failing which the suit will be heard and determined as ex-parte.

SCHEDULE PROPERTIES
All that piece of residential property bearing Municipal Katha No. 3912, Situated at 9th Main Road, B.S.K. II Stage, Bangalore, in BBMP Limits, Ward No. 56, Ganesh Mandir, PID No.56-70-3912, measuring East to West 40 Feet and North to South 65 feet, totally measuring 2600 Square feet, along with a building measuring 7800 Square feet, bounded on:
East by : Site No. 3911,
West by : Site No. 3913,
North by : Road and S.W.D
South by : Road
Given under my hand and seal of the court on this 4th day of October, 2025.

BY ORDER OF THE COURT
Deputy Registrar
City Civil Court, Mayo Hall Unit Bengaluru

Advocate for Plaintiff
Sri Ramkishan B.R Advocate,
No. 25/2, Hari Hara Apartments, Rangarao Road, Shankarapuram, Bengaluru- 560004

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M BG-BGE

INBRIEF

3 Maoist leaders surrender before Telangana Police

Three senior leaders of the banned CPI (Maoist) party, Kunkati Venkataiah alias Vikas, Mogilicherla Venkatraju alias Chandu, and Thodem Ganga alias Sony, surrendered before the Telangana Police on Friday, after decades of being underground. All three, who were State Committee Members of the party, were leading key divisions under the Dandakaranya Special Zonal Committee. Each of them carried a reward of ₹20 lakh, which was handed over to them.

A.P. court convicts three in dowry harassment case

The Mangalagiri Court in Andhra Pradesh has sentenced three individuals to one year of imprisonment and imposed a fine of ₹1,000 each in a domestic violence and dowry harassment case. Police said that the case was registered in 2019 based on a complaint by 24-year-old Tadiboyina Sumalatha of Namburu village. She had accused her husband and his parents, of physically and mentally harassing her for additional dowry.

HYDRAA reclaims 12.5 acres of government land in drive

The Hyderabad Disaster Response & Asset Protection Agency (HYDRAA) carried out its encroachment clearance drive at multiple locations in the city on Friday, and reclaimed four pieces of government lands with a combined extent of 12.5 acres. Five acres of government land in Hyderabad district, 7.5 acres in Medchal Malkajgiri district and 680 square yards of land in Ranga Reddy district were reclaimed by the agency, a statement from HYDRAA said.

Kerala CM seeks Centre's help to tide over financial crunch

Pinarayi meets PM in Delhi, reiterates Kerala's demand for ₹2,221 cr. for rehabilitation of landslide victims in Wayanad; he says State is unable to mobilise funds owing to Centre's cap on borrowing

The Hindu Bureau
THIRUVANANTHAPURAM

Chief Minister Pinarayi Vijayan on Friday sought the Union government's intervention to ensure Kerala's financial stability and realisation of its developmental and social welfare aspirations during a closed-door meeting with Prime Minister Narendra Modi in New Delhi.

Speaking to reporters in Delhi, Mr. Vijayan sought to set aside perceived political differences and termed the interaction "positive, healthy, hopeful, and optimistic".

Mr. Vijayan said the State and the Centre would remain in "a constant mode of productive engagement" for national development and public welfare.

Key demands: Kerala Chief Minister Pinarayi Vijayan felicitates Prime Minister Narendra Modi, in New Delhi on Friday. ANI

Mr. Vijayan said he reiterated Kerala's demand for an allocation of ₹2,221.03 crore from the National Disaster Response Fund for the rehabilitation of the landslide-affected people in Wayanad.

Mr. Vijayan said he also apprised Mr. Modi of Kerala's financial difficulties. He said the Centre's decision to reduce the State's borrowing limit had curtailed its considerable latitude to mobilise funds.

He said the Centre had reduced various allocations for Kerala and slashed its share from the divisible pool of taxes. Kerala also asked the Centre to exempt the State from bearing 25% of the land acquisition cost for national highway development.

Plea for AIIMS

Mr. Vijayan repeated Kerala's demand for the establishment of an All India Institute of Medical Sciences (AIIMS) on land earmarked by the State government in Kozhikode.

Kerala HC orders registration of case over missing gold from Sabarimala

The Hindu Bureau
KOCHI

A day after recording the statements of officials of the Chennai-based Smart Creation that electroplated the gold-clad copper coverings of the Dwarapalaka (guardian deity) idols at the Sabarimala Ayyappa temple, the Travancore Devaswom Board's (TDB) Vigilance wing submitted its report to the High Court on Friday.

A Bench of Justices Raja Vijayaraghavan V. and K.V. Jayakumar, in turn, directed that the report be handed over to the State Police Chief, who ought to direct the Special Investigation Team (SIT) to register a case regarding the reduction in weight of the gold-clad copper coverings.

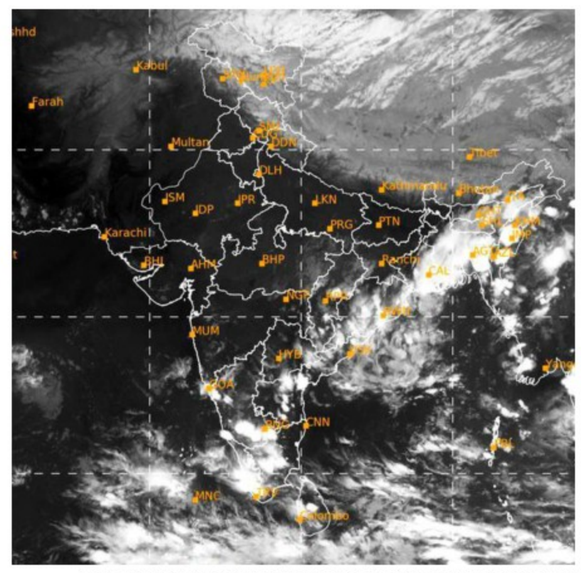
The court also directed the SIT to register a criminal case in connection with the "misappropriation of gold" from the "side frame or lintels" of the shrine and launch an investigation. The Bench issued the direction after noting that from the investigation conducted till now, "it appears that insofar as the side frames or lintels are concerned, misappropriation of gold has been carried out."

The report is expected to be handed over to the SIT probing the alleged irregularities that led to reduction in weight of gold-clad copper coverings by over 4.5 kg since 2019. The SIT can also probe irregularities in the gold-cladding works on the frames and about the 474.90 gm of gold taken off the copper coverings prior to the electroplating work and which is reportedly yet to be accounted for.

The SIT must submit a report to the court within six weeks and file a status report in sealed cover once every two weeks.

WEATHERWATCH

Rainfall, temperature & air quality in select metros yesterday



TEMPERATURE DATA: IMD, POLLUTION DATA: CPCB, MAP: INSAT/IMD (TAKEN AT 18.15 HRS)

Forecast for Saturday: Heavy/very heavy rainfall likely at isolated places over Nagaland, Manipur, Mizoram, Tripura, Odisha, Andhra Pradesh, Karnataka, Tamil Nadu, Puducherry, Karaikal and Kerala. Thunderstorm with lightning/gusty winds likely at isolated places over West Bengal, Chhattisgarh, Telangana, Mahe and Lakshadweep

CITY	RAIN	MAX	MIN	CITY	RAIN	MAX	MIN
Agartala	—	32.4	24.7	Kozhikode	—	31.6	25.8
Ahmedabad	—	33.4	23.2	Kurnool	—	33.9	24.6
Aizawl	—	30.1	20.2	Lucknow	—	31.2	20.6
Allahabad	—	32.2	20.5	Madurai	—	36.0	24.6
Bengaluru	7.8	29.1	19.7	Mangaluru	0.6	31.1	24.6
Bhopal	—	30.0	18.0	Mumbai	—	33.7	23.0
Bhubaneswar	—	33.0	24.0	Mysuru	52	32.0	24.0
Chandigarh	—	30.8	18.4	New Delhi	—	29.9	18.8
Chennai	—	32.9	25.4	Patna	—	32.3	24.5
Coimbatore	—	33.6	23.4	Port Blair	4	29.1	23.7
Dehradun	—	29.9	16.8	Puducherry	—	32.4	23.0
Gangtok	—	23.3	15.1	Pune	—	33.5	21.5
Goa	—	32.2	24.9	Raipur	—	31.4	22.5
Guwahati	—	32.3	24.9	Ranchi	—	29.4	21.8
Hubballi	—	31.0	22.0	Shillong	—	22.0	18.0
Hyderabad	—	32.4	20.0	Shimla	—	22.6	12.2
Imphal	24	30.0	19.8	Srinagar	—	23.5	6.6
Jaipur	—	31.0	19.4	Thiruvananthapuram	—	34.3	24.7
Kochi	—	31.0	25.4	Tiruchi	—	35.3	25.0
Kohima	16	21.0	16.7	Vijayawada	—	33.4	27.2
Kolkata	18.2	32.3	25.4	Visakhapatnam	—	32.3	25.6

(Rainfall data in mm; temperature in Celsius)

Pollutants in the air you are breathing

CITIES	SO_2	NO_2	CO	PM2.5	PM10	CODE
Ahmedabad	.19	.33	19	204	233	
Bengaluru	.9	.48	60	—	85	
Chennai	.9	.14	53	48	59	
Delhi	.16	.73	57	225	123	
Hyderabad	.6	.23	31	168	147	
Kolkata	.6	.52	25	72	160	
Lucknow	.8	.48	96	132	117	
Mumbai	.10	.17	12	227	133	
Pune	.4	.—	30	185	165	
Visakhapatnam	.9	.69	24	127	144	

Yesterday

In observation made at 4.00 p.m., Ratlam, Madhya Pradesh recorded an overall air quality index (AQI) score of 245 indicating an unhealthy level of pollution. In contrast, Shillong, Meghalaya recorded a healthy AQI score of 10

Air Quality Code: Poor Moderate Good (Readings indicate average AQI)

SO_2: Sulphur Dioxide. Short-term exposure can harm the respiratory system, making breathing difficult. It can affect visibility by reacting with other air particles to form haze and stain culturally important objects such as statues and monuments.

NO_2: Nitrogen Dioxide. Aggravates respiratory illness, causes haze to form by reacting with other air particles, causes acid rain, pollutes coastal waters.

CO: Carbon monoxide. High concentration in air reduces oxygen supply to critical organs like the heart and brain. At very high levels, it can cause dizziness, confusion, unconsciousness and even death.

PM2.5 & PM10: Particulate matter pollution can cause irritation of the eyes, nose and throat, coughing, chest tightness and shortness of breath, reduced lung function, irregular heartbeat, asthma attacks, heart attacks and premature death in people with heart or lung disease

Celebrating girl child

Pursuing equality: Children engaged in a recreational activity under the supervision of a caretaker at the Kerala State Sisu Kshema Samithi in Thiruvananthapuram on Friday. October 11 is observed as International Day of the Girl Child by the UN. NIRMAL HARINDRAN

Telangana Police arrest key hawala operator in drug network

The Hindu Bureau
HYDERABAD

The Telangana Police have arrested a key hawala operator allegedly involved in laundering drug money for Nigerian cartels operating across India.

They also seized ₹3 crore in cash linked to narcotics proceeds during an operation in Mumbai.

The arrested accused was identified as Dargaram Rataji Prajapati. The operation was conducted by the police's EAGLE team.

The arrest of Dargaram, is part of the ongoing investigation following the arrest of Nigerian national Onyeisi Esomchi Kenneth and Emmanuel Bediako earlier in Telangana.

Dargaram was one of the main handlers in the drug money network that operated through hawala channels in Mumbai, Delhi, and Ahmedabad.

25 held so far

Earlier, when the police conducted a search at Bharath Kumar Chaganlal & Company in Mumbai, Dargaram escaped. The company was being used to channel drug proceeds of Nigerian traffickers through hawala routes.

After the crackdown, Dargaram went underground, frequently changing locations and erasing contact numbers and WhatsApp chats related to his illegal business. Acting on specific information, the EAGLE force located him and took him into custody.

So far, 25 people have been arrested in connection with the hawala drug money network.

Vizag youth robs his house with help of friends to clear debt

The Hindu Bureau
VISAKHAPATNAM

In a bizarre incident, a 24-year-old man, along with three friends, allegedly robbed his own house to clear his debts. The incident that occurred in Indira Nagar Colony under the Kancharapalem police station limits on October 5 came to light on Friday after police arrested the accused.

The accused have been identified as D. Krishnakanth (24), and his friends P. Pramod Kumar (30), S. Abhishek (21), and A. Satya Surya Kumar (22).

Addressing the media on Friday, Police Commissioner Shankhabrata Bagchi said that Krishnakanth, along with his friends, broke into his own house on October 5. They tied up his grandmother and fled with 12 tolas of gold, ₹50,000 in cash, a car, and other valuables. Krishnakanth's father Ananda Reddy is a contractor.

Investigation revealed that Krishnakanth had lost a huge money in online trading. To repay his debts, he had planned to rob his own house and sought the help of his close friends–Pramod, Abhishek and Kumar–for it.

The accused started planning the robbery a week in advance over group calls. Krishnakanth and Pramod bought materials required for the crime, including plastic wraps used in parcel packaging, surgical masks and gloves. They also made a plan to avoid being caught by CCTV cameras. They decided to speak only in Hindi to avoid suspicion.

When Mr. Ananda Reddy went to Hyderabad for work, the accused found it an opportune moment to execute their plan, Mr. Bagchi said.

After gaining entry into the house through the back door, they tied Krishnakanth's grandmother and made good with the cash and gold from the locker. To make it appear more believable, Krishnakanth tied himself up and faked injuries.

To avoid being caught on CCTV, the accused used Mr. Ananda Reddy's car parked in front of the house after the theft. They abandoned the vehicle at an isolated spot and took an autorickshaw to the RTC Complex, from where they went to Vijayawada and later to Hyderabad.

Kerala HC says Munambam land is not Waqf property, slams 'fanciful exercise of power'

The Hindu Bureau
KOCHI

In a landmark decision, the Kerala High Court has held that the disputed land at Munambam in Ernakulam district is not a Waqf property but a gift presented by Mohammed Siddique Sait in favour of the Farooq College management.

A Division Bench criticised the entire exercise of the Kerala Waqf Board (KWB) in the Munambam case as a "sham" and said the board "acted as a sheer land grabber eyeing the subject property, which had assumed high value in the last few decades."

Breather: Residents of Munambam staging a protest after the Waqf Board's claim on their properties on January 5. FILE PHOTO

The dispute over Munambam land had snowballed into a socio-political issue in the State. Residents had alleged that the Waqf Board was unlawfully claiming their land and properties, though they were in possession of registered deeds and land tax payment receipts.

The Bench of Justices Sushrut Arvind Dharmadhikari and V.M. Syam Kumar criticised the KWB for not acting on the property from 1950 to 2019 and skipping the statutory requirement of carrying out a survey and conducting a quasi-judicial inquiry with the participation of all persons concerned before the registration of Waqf.

"If the judicial seal of approval is placed on such an arbitrary declaration of Waqf, tomorrow any random building or structure, including Taj Mahal, Red Fort, Niyama Sabha Mandiram (State Legislature Complex), or even this Court's building would be vulnerable of being painted with the brush of a Waqf property by the Waqf board on the basis of any random document at any point of time," it said.

In a secular country like India, the court is obligated to act under the Constitution, and it cannot permit such a belated and fanciful exercise of power, the Bench held.

However, the court stopped short of quashing the decision of the Board, and upheld the government order appointing an inquiry commission to ascertain ownership of the disputed area.

(With PTI inputs)

Kerala Tourism marks John Lennon's birth anniversary

The Hindu Bureau
THIRUVANANTHAPURAM

Kerala Tourism has come out with an evocative post on October 9 marking the 85th birthday anniversary of John Lennon, The Beatles' co-lead vocalist and one of rock's most prolific songwriters.

A picture featuring five women artistes clad in the traditional attire of three religious art forms and crossing a road with the tagline 'Imagine/ all the people/ livin' life in peace'.

With the punchline, 'Imagine crossing borders, touching hearts and tearing down walls. Imagine a world united in peace,' the social media post on Lennon, who was also a peace activist evokes a feeling of his songs and message, which remain timeless.

The image used in the social media post by Kerala Tourism

For the one who repeats the same tales,
but makes them feel new each time

Because Deepavali isn't just about giving.
It's about keeping alive the ties that bind us.
And the stories we share.
So this year, let your gift carry a story
a story of love that endures of bonds that remain
even with the ones who drive us nuts
but whom we'll always love.

THIS DEEPAVALI
GIFT A STORY
GIFT BOLAS

Don't wait for a Pushpak Vimaan,
just visit your nearest Bolas stores now

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INBRIEF

TCS to add 5,000 jobs in U.K., opens 'AI Experience Zone'

Tata Consultancy Services (TCS) on Friday said it would create 5,000 jobs in the U.K. over the next three years. The announcement comes a day after the firm admitted to lay-offs of almost 20,000 in the second quarter of FY25, during an analysts call. TCS also said it opened an 'AI Experience Zone and Design Studio' in London, reaffirming its continued strategic investment across the U.K., and upholding its long-standing partnership with the U.K. economy.

Jubilant Pharmova arm opens $132-mn fill, finish line in U.S.

Jubilant Pharmova subsidiary and contract manufacturer Jubilant HollisterStier LLC (JHS) has launched a $132 million new sterile fill and finish line at its Spokane manufacturing facility in Washington, U.S. This is the third such line of JHS, which specialises in sterile injectables. The subsidiary is on track to double its total sterile injectable manufacturing capacity at the facility in the U.S., once the upcoming fourth line is commissioned, the parent company said.

Tide to invest ₹6,000 cr. in India over the next five years

British business management platform Tide on Friday said it will invest £500 million (₹6,000 crore) in India over the next five years, starting 2026, and create over 800 jobs in the next 12 months. This investment will support the company's original market entry commitment to invest £100 million made in 2021, delivered ahead of the 5-year mark, according to a statement. The jobs will be across areas such as product development and marketing. PTI

Microfinance loan defaults surged in 2024-25: Sa-Dhan data

Bihar performed the worst, not only accounting for the highest amounts of loans outstanding, but also the highest rates of default on these loans

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

The rate of delinquencies of microfinance loans rose sharply in 2024-25, according to the latest report by microfinance self-regulatory body Sa-Dhan. The percentage of microfinance loans overdue by more than 30 days increased to 6.2% from 2.1% in 2023-24.

Similarly, the share of loans more than 90 days overdue increased to 4.8% by the end of March 2025 compared with 1.6% in the previous year.

"Delinquency levels have risen across the industry," the 2025 edition of the annual Bharat Microfinance Report by Sa-Dhan said. "The Portfolio at Risk (PAR) 30+ days past due (dpd) surged to 6.2%, up significantly from 2.1% in the last financial year."

'Bad' debts

Delinquency levels have risen across the industry, says the annual Bharat Microfinance Report by Sa-Dhan

- The data showed that rural borrowers fared the worst in terms of loan repayment
- Of the ₹2.3 lakh crore of loans outstanding for rural customers, 6.4% were overdue by more than 30 days
- This is compared with 6.1% and 6% for semi-urban and urban borrowers, respectively

"State-wise data further corroborate this upward trend in delinquency across the industry," the report added.

According to the data, Bihar had ₹57,712 crore worth of microfinance loans outstanding as of March-end 2025.

Of these, 7.2% were more than 30 days overdue compared with the national average of 6.2%. About 4.6% of the loans were overdue by more than 90 days, the conventional benchmark used to categorise a loan as a non-performing asset.

The data also showed that rural borrowers fared the worst in terms of loan repayment.

Of the ₹2.3 lakh crore of loans outstanding for rural customers, 6.4% were overdue by more than 30 days, compared with 6.1% and 6% for semi-urban and urban borrowers, respectively.

Tata Trusts board meeting passes off smoothly, rebels silent

Lalatendu Mishra
MUMBAI

Shapoorji Pallonji Mistry, Chairman of the SP Group, demanded listing of Tata Sons

The meeting of the board of trustees of Tata Trusts held on Friday passed off smoothly as expected with 'rebels' falling in line following the 'advice' of two Union Ministers to work in unison and settle all differences among themselves.

The Hindu has learnt that the meeting chaired by Noel N. Tata, discussed routine issues and the preset agenda was strictly followed. No contentious and other issues were either raised or discussed.

Members of the 'rival camp' attended the meeting, but discussions centred on grants to hospitals and rural developmental projects, a person familiar with the matter said.

It is also learnt that a group in the Tata Trusts has been active for nearly a year to capture key positions in Tata Sons to influence decisions. "It was building up since Ratan Tata died," a person privy to the developments said. The 'rebels' succeeded when they voted out Tata Trusts vice-chairman Vijay Singh from the board of Tata Sons. Mr. Singh, a former defence secretary was a confidant of Ratan Tata.

Meanwhile, Shapoorji Pallonji Mistry, the Chairman of Shapoorji Pallonji Group which holds about 18% stake in Tata Sons, demanded listing of Tata Sons in a statement.

"In light of recent developments pertaining to the internal matters of Tata Trusts, it is both timely and necessary to reiterate our long-standing position – one that has always been rooted in transparency, fairness, public interest, and adherence to the principles of good corporate governance," he said.

"The Shapoorji Pallonji Group has consistently advocated the public listing of Tata Sons," he added.

MARKETS

MARKET WATCH

	FRIDAY	% CHANGE
Sensex	82,501	0.40
US Dollar	88.72	0.07
Gold	1,26,000	-0.47
Brent oil	62.79	-3.96

NIFTY 50

	PRICE	CHANGE
Adani Enter	2550.90	8.50
Adani Ports	1409.40	13.80
Apollo Hosp	7681.00	-14.00
Asian Paints	2340.20	3.80
Axis Bank	1180.40	13.00
Bajaj Auto	8946.50	136.50
Bajaj Finserv	2004.30	-10.30
Bajaj Finance	1023.85	-0.25
Bharat Elec	413.50	4.15
Bharti Airtel	1939.90	-2.10
Cipla	1561.80	48.70
Coal India	384.50	1.15
Dr Reddys Lab	1264.40	18.30
Eicher Motors	6965.00	68.50
Eternal Ltd.	348.30	2.80
Grasim Ind	2811.00	0.40
HCL Tech	1495.50	9.00
HDFC Bank	980.90	3.80
HDFC Life	747.30	-7.05
Hindalco	773.95	-0.15
Hind Unilever	2528.90	11.30
ICICI Bank	1380.30	4.10
IntGlobeAvi	5735.00	10.50
Infosys	1514.90	5.60
ITC	402.80	2.90
Jio Financial Services Ltd.	308.15	0.80
JSW Steel	1167.80	-7.40
Kotak Bank	2150.10	5.50
L&T	3784.00	14.80
M&M	3454.90	12.00
Maruti Suzuki	16265.00	280.00
Max Healthcare	1156.40	0.60
NestleIndia	1199.50	11.70
NTPC	339.70	3.85
ONGC	246.34	2.95
PowerGrid Corp	289.15	3.00
Reliance Ind	1381.70	3.90
SBI Life	1810.40	0.60
State Bank	880.65	18.55
Shriram Finance Ltd.	665.05	-4.00
Sun Pharma	1670.90	12.40
TataConsumerProduct	1126.50	8.50
Tata Motors	678.95	-2.15
Tata Steel	173.86	-2.56
TCS	3028.30	-33.40
Tech Mahindra	1457.20	-9.40
Titan	3531.90	-18.70
Trent Ltd.	4691.10	30.20
UltraTech Cement	12281.00	89.00
Wipro	248.70	2.30

Gold shines, equities dive in Indian investors' portfolio

Ashokamithran T.
MUMBAI

Indian investors have upped their investments in gold exchange traded funds, while their enthusiasm in equity investments has come down, going by latest data from the Association of Mutual Funds of India (AMFI).

Net inflows into gold ETFs increased four times, coming in at ₹8,363 crore, while inflows into equity mutual funds dipped 9% to ₹30,421.7 crore in September 2025. In the previous month, this was ₹2,189.51 crore and ₹33,430 crore respectively. Gold and silver ETFs have gained traction in recent times among investors.

This comes on the back of continued uptick in gold and silver prices due to multiple factors like geopolitical tensions and tariff wars. Gold is a safe haven asset and investors rush to the yellow metal in times of uncertain returns.

Industry leaders too cite multiple global factors behind the rush to precious metals. "Anticipated interest rate cuts, stubborn inflation, slowing global growth, and persistent geopolitical tensions are driving investors towards safe-haven assets. Fresh investments by central banks in gold and silver, coupled with record flows in bullion ETFs reinforce this demand," said Kartik Jain, MD & CEO, Shriram AMC.

EXCHANGE RATES

Indicative direct rates in rupees a unit except yen at 4 p.m. on October 10

CURRENCY	TT BUY	TT SELL
US Dollar	88.53	88.86
Euro	102.34	102.74
British Pound	117.49	117.95
Japanese Yen (100)	57.99	58.22
Chinese Yuan	12.41	12.47
Swiss Franc	109.79	110.21
Singapore Dollar	68.20	68.47
Canadian Dollar	63.14	63.40
Malaysian Ringitt	20.93	21.06
Australian Dollar	58.00	58.22

Source:Indian Bank

'Kitchen Mogul' Jagannathan of TTK Prestige passes away at 77

The Hindu Bureau
CHENNAI

T. T. Jagannathan, chairman emeritus, T. T. K. Prestige, passed away in Bengaluru on Friday. He was 77.

"His sudden and unexpected passing away will be an irreparable loss to the company," T.T.K. Prestige, the kitchen and home products firm and flagship of the T.T.K. Group, said in a stock exchange filing.

He is survived by wife Latha Jagannathan and sons T. T. Mukund and T. T. Lakshman. His other son T. T. Venkatesh predeceased him in September.

Mr. Jagannathan, the grandson of former Union Finance Minister T. T. Krishnamachari, was a gold medallist from IIT Madras and a PhD in operations research from Cornell University in the U.S. In 1972, his father T.T. Narasimhan visited Cornell and urged Mr. Jagannathan to return home and save the business, 'as it was collapsing.'

T. T. Jagannathan

Transforming the brand

Mr. Jagannathan was a promoter-director and had been at the helm of T.T.K. Prestige Ltd. since 1975. He led the firm to become a market leader in the small appliances industry in India, as per the company's annual report for 2025.

He was instrumental in transforming the company into reaching a market cap of more than $1 billion.

Mr. Jagannathan joined the board of T.T.K. Prestige as MD in 1975 and served in the role for over 26 years. He then served as executive chairman for 19 years until 2019. He was the longest-serving director/chairman in the firm's history.

Mr. Jagannathan was instrumental in turning around the T.T.K. Group and making it debt-free,

His major invention, the gasket release system, which he never patented, put an end to the spate of bursting pressure cookers and also saved the company from the brink of collapse. He loved cooking, which he learnt at the age of eight. "If you don't know how to cook, then you are not in the cooking business," he often said.

India may open retail power to private firms

Reuters

India plans to open up its retail electricity market for private companies nationwide, ending the dominance of State-run distributors in most States, a draft bill by the federal power ministry showed.

The move will allow private companies such as Adani Enterprises, Tata Power, Torrent Power and CESC to strengthen their presence across India. A similar attempt in 2022 faced opposition from State distribution companies (discoms).

Only a handful of India's electricity distribution zones – including the national capital region, Odisha and industrial States like Maharashtra and Gujarat – are currently privatised as the rules do not specifically provide for it. Most are under State control and are burdened with deep financial losses.

State power utilities owed power generators $6.78 billion.

New Delhi has been pushing State-run power utilities to cut losses, clean up balance sheets and upgrade age-old infrastructure. Earlier this year, the country's most populous State Uttar Pradesh invited bids to privatise two of its four power distribution companies.

As of June, State discoms owed power generators about $6.78 billion.

Fraud monitoring norms for insurers to take effect April 1

N. Ravi Kumar
HYDERABAD

The framework seeks to deter, detect, report and remedy fraud risks across the insurance industry

A set of guidelines as part of an updated insurance fraud monitoring framework for all insurers and distribution channels, including a board approved anti-fraud policy, will come into force on April 1, 2026.

The framework seeks to deter, detect, report and remedy fraud risks across the insurance industry, insurance regulator IRDAI said on the (Insurance Fraud Monitoring Framework) Guidelines, 2025, which will repeal the 2013 Insurance Fraud Monitoring Framework.

With zero tolerance to fraud as the principle, every insurer must have a fraud risk management framework specific to the nature of business, size, risk profile, overall business strategy, products, distribution channels and technology infrastructure.

Red flag indicators

Based on the line of business, activities, past experience and trends, insurers ought to identify red flag indicators to detect frauds and incorporate them appropriately in operations.

Mooting a board-approved anti-fraud policy as a measure to rein in fraud, IRDAI said such a policy should be relevant to the entire operations of the insurer's business and activities and must be reviewed at least annually. From anti-fraud procedures; fraud investigation process, including internal turnaround times - from identification to remedy; mechanism for appropriate action for non-compliance to fraud risk; appropriate and adequate resources to fraud monitoring unit; due diligence procedures for staff recruitment and vendor engagement, the review will cover different aspects.

Advising insurers to form Risk Management Committees, IRDAI said this will ensure effective implementation and oversight of the framework.

The insurer will have to establish a fraud monitoring committee and a fraud monitoring unit with the latter being independent from internal audit and for extending support to the panel. IRDAI also wants the insurer to establish and implement a robust cybersecurity framework.

Zoho for Startups sees interest in the U.K., EU

The Hindu Bureau
COIMBATORE

Zoho for Startups, which has reached over 18,000 startups in 16 to 18 countries, is drawing interest in the U.K. and Europe, said Kuppulakshmi Krishnamoorthy, Global Head for Zoho for Startups. The firm, which aims to empower start-ups was started in 2017 and rebranded in 2020. It has 6,914 registered users in India.

Revenue is good in India and it is growing organically in Australia, she said.

CLEAN KERALA COMPANY LTD
Clean Kerala Company Limited (A Govt. of Kerala Undertaking)
Regd: Office: TC.29/1732, IInd Floor, State Municipal House, Vazhuthacaud, Trivandrum-695 010, Kerala
Email: cleankeralacompany@gmail.com
CIN U90000KL2013SGC035624
Notification No. P/CKCL/3833/2025 Dt: 25.08.2025
RE TENDER NOTIFICATION
Clean Kerala Company Ltd invites Re-Tenders from experienced entities for implementing the Total Sanitary Waste management project in different clusters on a PPP Basis (DBFOT Model) in Kerala. (Tender ID: 2025_CKCL-791139-2, 2025_CKCL-791826-2, 2025_CKCL-791840-2, 2025_CKCL-791849-2). RFP can be downloaded free of cost on the website: **http://etenders.kerala.gov.in/**. Last date and time of submission of proposal will be 18.10.2025, 6 PM. For more details, please visit: **www.cleankeralacompany.com**
Ph: 0471-2724600 Sd/-,Managing Director

KANNUR INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT LTD
Tender is invited by Kannur International Airport Limited for the following works:-
1. Tender ID : 2025_KIAL_802696_1 : Annual Maintenance work Civil, Electrical and Miscellaneous works at Kannur International Airport for 2025-2027. Bid closing date is 21.10.2025 at 5 PM.
2. Tender ID : 2025_KIAL_805777_1 : Operation and Maintenance for Electrical system, FADS, Fire Fighting system, Plumbing system, Civil Maintenance, Maintenance of Signages and other Miscellaneous works at PTB, ATC etc. for 2025-2028.
Bid Publishing date is 10.10.2025 and closing date is 31.10.2025
For further details visit : etenders.kerala.gov.in.
Future Addendum/Corrigendum will be published in this website only.
Sd/- Managing Director

भारतीय सूचना प्रौद्योगिकी संस्थान, पुणे
Indian Institute of Information Technology, Pune
(An Institute of National Importance by an Act of Parliament)
Gat No 5 & 6, PO - Nanoli-Tarf Chakan, Tah - Maval, Dist - Pune, Maharashtra - 410507
संदर्भ संख्या: IIITP/Admin/Outsource/TPO/2025-26/03 दिनांक/Dated:10.10.2025
रोजगार सूचना/EMPLOYMENT NOTICE
Applications are invited by the IIIT Pune, an Institute of National Importance for the following position on a contractual basis through an outsourced agency:

Sl. No.	Name of the Position	Remuneration (Per Month)	No. of Posts	Date of Walk-In-Interview
1.	Training and Placement Officer (TPO)	Rs.90,000/- to Rs.1,00,000/-	01	23-10-2025 at 10.30 AM onwards
2.	Electrician	Rs. 25000/- to Rs.30,000/-	03	16-10-2025 at 10.30 AM onwards
3.	System Administrator	Rs.40,000/-	01	27-10-2025 at 10.30 AM onwards
4.	Receptionist	Rs.25000/-	01	16-10-2025 at 2.30 AM onwards

General Information:
- For detailed information, eligibility criteria and updates, candidates may visit the Institute website: **https://www.iiitp.ac.in/careers**
- Candidates possessing the requisite qualifications and relevant experience are invited to attend the Walk-in Interview scheduled to be held at the Indian Institute of Information Technology, Pune

SD/-
REGISTRAR

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
DEPARTMENT OF SPACE
CMG, SDSC - SHAR SRIHARIKOTA - 524124
Brief E- TENDER NOTICE: CORRIGENDUM-II (SALE EXTENSION)
No: e-Tender Notice No.CMG/C/CON/258715-(II) Dt: 09.10.2025
Refer to Tender No CMG/C/CON/258715 dated 09.9.2025 Name of work: **"Balance works for Package - D: Construction of LOSF storage bay for C32 main building etc., for SLP Augmentation, SDSC SHAR"** (Est. cost **Rs 249 Lakhs**).
Sale period extended up to 17.10.2025
Interested tenderers may visit www.isro.gov.in or www.tenderwizard.com/ISRO for details.
Sd/- GROUP HEAD, CMG/SDSC SHAR

GVK Power (Goindwal Sahib) Limited
Regd. Office: Plot No. 10, Palgah Colony, Sardar Patel Road, Secunderabad-500003, Telangana, India CIN: U40109TG1997PLC028483
(A Wholly owned subsidiary of Guru Amar Das Thermal Power Limited, GATPL)
(A step down wholly owned subsidiary of Punjab State Power Corporation Limited, PSPCL)
HOD-Operation, GATP, Goindwal Sahib, invites E-Tender for the Supply of:

1	**Tender Enquiry No. 081GATP/BIOMASS/20016930 dated 09/10/2025** **1)" Supply of Agro residue base Biomass pallets."** at 2X270 MW Guru Amardas Thermal Plant (GATP), Goindwal Sahib, Distt.: Tarn Taran, Punjab as per details given in the tender specifications.'

For detailed NIT & Tender specifications, please refer to **https://eproc.punjab.gov.in** from 09/10/2025 from 17:00 Hrs. onwards.
Note: Corrigendum and addendum, if any, will be published online at https://eproc.punjab.gov.in
GATP-67/25 1079/12/2025-26/4086

Powers vested in BDA to be transferred to GBA

D.K. Shivakumar says this will mark a major administrative reform in how city will now be governed

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

Deputy Chief Minister D.K. Shivakumar said that the powers so far vested in the Bengaluru Development Authority (BDA) will now be transferred to the Greater Bengaluru Authority (GBA). This, he said, would mark a major administrative reform in how Bengaluru will now be governed under a single metropolitan framework, as GBA will now be the planning authority. The DCM announced this at a press conference after the first-ever meeting of the GBA held after its formation on Friday.

However, when asked if BDA will not be taking any further decisions, Mr. Shivakumar said BDA will be under GBA, and it will continue to hold its own area, while GBA will focus on the areas mentioned in the Act. Planning for BDA, the DCM clarified, will not be done by the GBA.

"Even Transferable Development Rights (TDR), which earlier used to go to BDA, will be under GBA for early and faster disposal of the problems," he said.

Mr. Shivakumar, however, did not mention anything regarding the fund allocation for the corporations during the meeting and said all infrastructure projects will be done under GBA, and funds will be allocated accordingly.

The DCM mentioned that the elections will first be held within the currently declared GBA limits. After that, a committee will decide which areas should be included based on their level of urban development. He mentioned that five plots have been identified for the construction of new offices for the five corporations. The plots are identified around Mahadevapura Metro Station, Chokkanahalli, and Banashankari in the south, apart from two other areas.

To address traffic congestion, the CM instructed the Transport Department and the Bengaluru Metro Rail Corporation Limited (BMRCL) to plan for last-mile connectivity, including deploying mini-buses where required. He mentioned that he will visit one corporation's limits every weekend to understand people's problems, starting October 11. On first day, the DCM will be visiting Lalbagh in Bengaluru Central Corporation.

Hitting at BJP boycotting the first meeting, Mr. Siddaramaiah remarked that all public representatives have the opportunity to express their opinions freely in the GBA meetings. However, some representatives have lost that opportunity. Those who oppose decentralisation and Bengaluru's development have chosen to boycott this meeting, he added.

He announced a hike in the financial powers of the new corporations to speed up decision-making. The spending limit for commissioners has been raised from ₹1 crore to ₹3 crore, for standing committees from ₹3 crore to ₹5 crore, and for mayors from ₹5 crore to ₹10 crore.

Chief Minister Siddaramaiah, Deputy Chief Minister D.K. Shivakumar, and GBA chief commissioner M. Maheshwar Rao at the first meeting of GBA in Bengaluru on Friday. ALLEN EGENUSE J.

Plot for abandoned vehicles

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

When Shivajinagar MLA Rizwan Arshad highlighted that abandoned vehicles in city are increasing traffic congestion and waste management problems, Deputy Chief Minister D.K. Shivakumar instructed officials to identify 10-acre plots outside the city to relocate these vehicles.

Committee to oversee development of slums

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

Deputy Chief Minister D.K. Shivakumar directed GBA officials to form a committee to oversee the revival of the city's slums following the Mumbai model. "Earlier, we had attempted a similar initiative in Shanthinagar, but it failed. Therefore, a dedicated committee must be formed," he said, while responding to Zameer Ahmed Khan, MLA for Chamarajapete, who pointed out that there are 480 slums in the city .

When asked whether waste management would be handled by the GBA, Mr. Shivakumar clarified that 33 tenders will be called, one for each assembly segment. "The matter is currently under judicial review, and a ruling is expected soon, after which the work will proceed. Waste collection will be managed by the local municipal corporations, while GBA will oversee overall coordination," he said.

BJP boycotts first meeting of Greater Bengaluru Authority

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

B.Y. Vijayendra took exception to the delayed information about the meeting and accused the govt. of forming such a body without any preparations

The Opposition BJP on Friday boycotted the first meeting of the Greater Bengaluru Authority (GBA), alleging that the meeting notice and agenda had been given to them very late. They said the meeting was scheduled to take up the issue of curtailing the powers of GBA's elected body, much against the spirit of decentralisation.

Addressing a press conference in Bengaluru, R. Ashok, Leader of the Opposition in the Karnataka Legislative Assembly, alleged that the Opposition members had received the notice regarding the GBA meeting only on Friday morning, though it should have been given a week in advance as per norms. Similarly, they had been given the meeting agenda only four hours before the meeting. "How can we prepare for the meeting if the agenda is given so late?" he asked.

"The agenda of the meeting that proposes to curtail the powers of elected members of the GBA goes against the spirit of the 74th Amendment to the Constitution. This would mean that the government would play a dual role of adopting the resolutions at the GBA and then giving approval for them. This is detrimental to the interest of Bengaluru and spirit of decentralisation," he alleged. He maintained that the government had deliberately kept the agenda a secret till the meeting day to prevent any public debate on it.

Consultation with JD(S)

Mr. Ashok said the decision to boycott the GBA meeting had been taken in consultation with JD (S) leader and Union Minister H.D. Kumaraswamy.

The BJP would not mind attending the GBA meetings if they take up issues related to Bengaluru city development, he said.

Accusing the government of forming the GBA in a hurry, he expressed concern that there was no dedicated halls to even hold the meetings of GBA or its corporations.

Similarly, the GBA was facing a shortage of over 4,000 personnel, including doctors and engineers, he said, and wondered if it would be possible for the new authority to function effectively with such a shortage in manpower.

BJP State president B.Y. Vijayendra too took exception to the delayed information about the GBA meeting and accused the government of forming such a body without any preparations.

On ED seizures

Speaking about reports in a section of media that ED had seized cash to the tune of ₹300 crore that was allegedly meant to fund Bihar polls for the Congress, Mr. Ashok asked if one needed more proof to say that the Congress government in Karnataka was an "ATM for the Congress high command."

HC notice to govt. over plea against splitting Mahadevapura Assembly constituency

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

The High Court of Karnataka on Friday ordered the issue of notice to the State government on a PIL petition, which has questioned the splitting of areas under the Mahadevapura Assembly constituency into two different corporations, contrary to the spirit of the Greater Bengaluru Governance Authority (GBGA) Act, 2024, which is primarily against splitting an Assembly constituency across corporations.

A division bench comprising Chief Justice Vibhu Bakhru and Justice C.M. Poonacha has passed the order on the petition filed by Harish P.S. and Dileep Kumar R., both voters of Mahadevapura constituency.

The petitioners have contended that splitting areas of the constituency into Bengaluru South City Corporation and Bengaluru East City Corporation is a direct contravention of Section 26(3) of the GBGA Act, 2024, which mandates that "the State shall make every endeavour to ensure that an Assembly constituency is not split across multiple corporations."

Statutory obligation

Stating that though the provision has been expressed in terms of "best endeavour," it imposes a statutory obligation on the State government to act reasonably, fairly, and in fidelity to legislative intent; the petitioners have contended that any departure is permissible only upon demonstration of compelling necessity, supported by cogent reasons but no such justification has been furnished in the present case of splitting the areas into two corporations.

It has been pointed out in the petition that the constituency is overwhelmingly in the East Corporation, with only certain areas appearing to have been classified under the South Corporation. Notably, Bellandur, ward number 150, has been split between the two corporations and includes areas such as Haralur, Ambalipura, parts of Kaikondrahalli, Kasavanahalli, Bhovicolony, Junnasandra, and parts of Doddakannalli, all of which are an integral part of Mahadevapura constituency.

'Defeats objective'

Division of areas into two corporations undermines the very object of GBGA Act, which was enacted to ensure coordinated governance in Bengaluru, the petitioners have claimed while pointing out that division of areas would result in administrative confusion, duplication of functions, and fragmentation of governance.

Moreover, residents of a single assembly constituency would be now subjected to multiple administrative and political structures, creating a representation crisis and weakening coherent political accountability, the petitioners have contended.

Students and faculty members of BU stage overnight protest seeking Syndicate member's removal

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

Students and faculty members of Bangalore University staged an overnight protest since Thursday (October 9, 2025) demanding the withdrawal of the Syndicate membership of Ramesh Babu P. who, they alleged, is "interfering" in the university administration and faculty duties.

Faculty members and students, who continued the protest on October 10, 2025, alleged that it is common for Mr. Babu to "misuse" the name of the Deputy Chief Minister and use abusive words against senior professors, too. They also alleged that his behaviour has caused severe humiliation and embarrassment to the faculty.

Students and faculty members of Bangalore University staging an overnight protest demanding the withdrawal of Syndicate membership of Ramesh Babu P., who has been 'interfering' in the university administration and faculty duties. SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

Mr. Babu, who was supposed to attend only the syndicate meetings, allegedly trespassed the selection process for guest faculties of the Physical Education Department and proceeded to conduct the interview himself as a Professor.

Abusive behaviour

During the recent Valmiki Jayanti celebration, the Special Officer for Scheduled Castes/Tribes Krishnamurthy was allegedly abused and insulted by him. "Several complaints have been made to the government against him and his behaviour," they added.

"The government should immediately withdraw the syndicate membership of Ramesh Babu, who is acting beyond his limitation and damaging the dignity of the university and professors. A petition has been submitted to the Vice Chancellor of the university and the government in this regard," a faculty member claimed, adding that if the government does not take any action against him, they will boycott classes and continue the protest.

Mr. Babu was not available for comments.

Event to mark 5,000th episode of quiz show

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

The popular Kannada television quiz show *"Thatt Antha Heli?"*, telecast by Doordarshan Chandana, is set to mark a milestone as it celebrates its 5,000th episode with a special programme on Saturday.

The programme jointly organised by Doordarshan Kendra, Bengaluru and UAS-Bangalore, will be inaugurated by the Governor Thaawarchand Gehlot and Minister for Forest Eshwar B. Khandre will participate as the distinguished guest in the event.

The celebratory event will take place at Dr. Babu Rajendra Prasad International Convention Hall, located on the GKVK campus of the University of Agricultural Sciences, Bengaluru (UAS-B), beginning at 10.30 a.m.

Students stage protest against university management

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

Students of Allied Health Science courses for the current academic year at Presidency University, Bengaluru, staged a protest on Friday, alleging that the university has cheated them by collaborating with 'Emversity,' which has been blacklisted by the University Grants Commission (UGC) recently.

The protesting students alleged that the university authorities threatened to terminate them when they sought clarity on the public notice issued by UGC warning about 'Emversity' and offering degrees with its affiliated centres through collaboration with private universities, terming it as illegal.

"When we went seeking clarity, the authorities snatched our phones and ID cards and threatened to terminate us," a protesting student told *The Hindu*.

"We are all worried about our degrees," another student said.

As per the provisions of the UGC Regulations, 2003, private universities are not permitted to establish off-campus centres, study centres, or extension centres even within the same state-without prior approval from the UGC. These universities are authorised to operate only from their main campus unless explicit permission is granted for additional centres.

Furthermore, private universities and deemed-to-be universities are not allowed to affiliate with other colleges or institutions to offer courses leading to the award of degrees, diplomas, or other academic qualifications. Any degrees or qualifications awarded through unauthorised centres or affiliated institutions are considered invalid and are not recognized for purposes of higher education or employment.

However, students have alleged that Presidential University is conducting Allied Health Science courses in collaboration with Emversity.

In its public notice issued on October 8, 2025, the UGC stated that, it has come to the notice of the commission that an entity operating under the name Emversity, Indiranagar , along with its affiliated centres is offering degree programmes through franchising, collaboration or agreements with private universities and deemed-to-be universities. "Such practices are strictly against the provisions of the UGC Act, which prohibits universities from offering degree programmes through franchising arrangements," it said.

Meanwhile, the UGC has warned parents and students to verify the recognition and legal status of any institution before enrolling. "Obtaining degrees from unauthorised or unrecognised institutions may result in such qualifications being considered invalid," reads the notice.

When contacted, an authority of the university said, "Emversity has nothing to do with the allied health sciences degree offered by the university. We were collaborated with Emversity only to set up labs."

The university issued clarification in this regard, saying, "The programmes on Allied Health Sciences and in Physiotherapy are recognised by the Karnataka state government and offered without any third-party collaboration".

Memorial lecture and awards event

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

The Association of People with Disability (APD) hosted the 8th N.S. Hema Memorial Lecture and 9th N.S. Hema Memorial Awards recently.

The event, which honours NGOs making a significant impact in the disability sector, was inaugurated by Dr. C.N. Manjunath, Member of Parliament and former director of Sri Jayadeva Hospital. Commending APD's enduring legacy, he praised the organisation's commitment to transforming the lives of persons with disabilities since its founding in 1959.

Delivering the keynote address, Jayanthi Yeshwanth, chairperson of the N.S. Hema Award Jury Committee emphasised the need for sustainable inclusion and partnerships across sectors.

'Implement the order mandating singing of *Naada Geete* in schools'

The Hindu Bureau
BENGLAURU

Chairman of Kannada Development Authority (KDA) Purushothama Bilimale urged the government to make singing of *Naada Geete* (State anthem) mandatory in all Central and State government-aided and private schools in the State.

"It is regrettable that even after 20 years, the *Naada Geete*, 'Jaya Bharata Jananiya Tanujathe', by Kuvempu, has been made mandatory in all educational institutions of the State before the start of daily activities. But this order has not been properly implemented," he lamented.

In his letter to Madhu Bangarappa, Minister of School Education and Literacy, Mr. Bilimale said that in 2004, the government declared Kuvempu's poem as the State anthem and set guidelines, but to this day, it is not being implemented in letter and spirit.

Purushottam Bilimale

"The authority has received many complaints about most private educational institutions neglecting to sing the *Naada Geete*, and we must consider this seriously."

Irrespective of the curriculum being followed, Mr. Bilimale said, the government's order to make singing the *Naada Geete* mandatory in all schools should be implemented strictly.

VIENNA

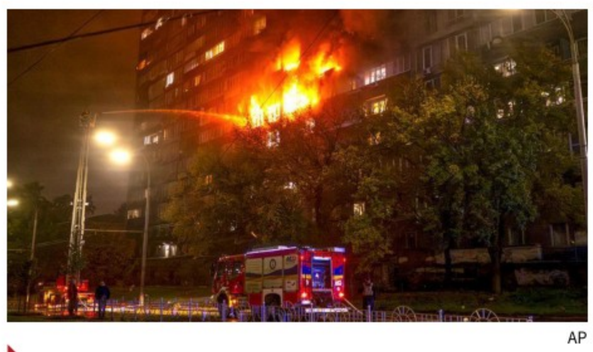
Austria finds Microsoft 'illegally' tracked students, watchdog says

REUTERS

Austria's data protection authority has determined that Microsoft "illegally" tracked students using its education software and must grant them access to their data, privacy campaign group Noyb said on Friday. It had complained that the Microsoft 365 education software violated EU data protection rights for children. AFP

KYIV

At least 20 wounded, child killed in Russian strikes across Ukraine



AP

Russian drone and missile strikes wounded at least 20 people in Kyiv, damaged residential buildings and caused blackouts across Ukraine on Friday. Five people were hospitalised, while others received first aid at the scene, authorities said. A 7-year-old boy was killed in separate attacks in southeastern Zaporizhzhia region. AP

TOKYO

Japan's ruling coalition collapses, putting Takaichi's PM bid in a bind

AP

Japan's ruling coalition collapsed on Friday as junior partner Komeito quit, putting in peril Liberal Democratic Party chief Sanae Takaichi's bid to become the country's first woman Prime Minister. Komeito's decision to end the alliance that has governed Japan for almost 25 years has stirred up a new political crisis. AFP

LIMA

Peru lawmakers oust President blamed for failing to stem crime

AFP

Lawmakers in Peru removed President Dina Boluarte from office just after midnight on Friday, ending a stint plagued by protests, corruption probes and rampant crime. Congress chief Jose Jeri, who assumed the South American country's presidency, will lead a transitional government until elections in April 2026. AFP

Taliban slam 'violent, heinous' Pakistani attack in Afghanistan

Pakistan violated Afghanistan's airspace, bombing a civilian market near the Durand Line and also violating Kabul's sovereign territory, says the Taliban regime; Islamabad says to safeguard Pakistani lives, 'what should be done will be done'

Agence France-Presse
KABUL

The Taliban regime on Friday accused Pakistan of "violating Kabul's sovereign territory", a day after two explosions were heard in the capital.

The Taliban have previously accused Islamabad of border strikes, but this is the first time it has alleged an incursion deep into its territory, describing it as an "unprecedented act".

"Pakistan violated Afghanistan's airspace, bombing a civilian market in the Marghi area of Paktika near the Durand Line and also violating Kabul's sovereign territory," the Defence Ministry said in a post on social media. "This is an unprecedented, violent, and heinous act in the history of Afghanistan and Pakistan," it added.

The Taliban have previously accused Islamabad of border strikes, but this time, they allege a deep territorial incursion. FILE PHOTO

The statement did not specify how Kabul's territory had been violated, but *AFP* journalists heard two loud blasts in the capital late on Thursday.

The same evening, residents in the border town of Marghi reported that a market selling second-hand weapons had been bombed. "If the situation becomes more tense after these actions, the consequences will be attributed to the Pakistani army," the statement added.

It comes as Afghan Foreign Minister Amir Khan Muttaqi made his first visit to India.

Anti-TTP raid

Pakistan's military spokesman, in a televised press conference on Friday, did not directly respond when questioned whether Pakistan was responsible for the attacks. "To safeguard Pakistani lives and properties, what measures need to be taken will be taken," Gen. Ahmed Sharif Chaudhry told reporters in the city of Peshawar.

The Pakistani Taliban (TTP), a separate but linked group to the Afghan Taliban, along with its affiliates, are behind most of the violence – largely directed at security forces.

Meanwhile, the Pakistani Army said 30 Taliban fighters involved in the recent killing of 11 soldiers, including a Lt. Col. and a Major, were "sent to hell" in a series of "retribution operations" conducted in Orakzai district of northwest Pakistan. Eleven military personnel were killed in clashes with the TTP earlier this week.

Venezuela's María Machado wins Nobel Peace Prize

Associated Press
OSLO

Venezuelan Opposition leader María Corina Machado won the Nobel Peace Prize on Friday for her struggle to achieve a democratic transition in the South American nation, winning recognition as a woman "who keeps the flame of democracy burning amid a growing darkness".

The former Opposition presidential candidate is a "key, unifying figure" in the once deeply divided Opposition to President Nicolas Maduro's government, said Jørgen Watne Frydnes, chair of the Norwegian Nobel committee.

Reacting to the honour, Ms. Machado said she was confident the Opposition would succeed in securing a peaceful transition to democracy in her country.

Maria Corina Machado

"We're not there yet. We're working very hard to achieve it, but I'm sure that we will prevail," she told Kristian Berg Harpviken, the director of the Nobel Institute and secretary of the Nobel Committee.

Dedicates win to Trump

"I dedicate this prize to the suffering people of Venezuela and to President Trump for his decisive support of our cause!" she later wrote on X.

Mr. Maduro's government has routinely targeted its real or perceived opponents.

Ms. Machado, who turned 58 this week, was set to run against Mr. Maduro in last year's presidential election, but the government disqualified her.

The crackdown on dissent only increased after the country's National Electoral Council, which is stacked with Maduro loyalists, declared him the winner despite credible evidence to the contrary. The election results announced by the Electoral Council sparked protests to which the government responded with force that ended with more than 20 people dead.

Ms. Machado becomes the 20th woman to win the Nobel Peace Prize.

(With inputs from AFP)

U.S. proposes ban on Chinese airlines from flying over Russia

Agence France-Presse
WASHINGTON

The United States has proposed prohibiting Chinese airlines from using Russian airspace while flying to or from American airports, a U.S. document has shown, as the rival superpowers try to thrash out a trade deal.

"We have tentatively determined that the practice by some Chinese air carriers in exercising Russian overflights in the conduct of certain China-U.S. scheduled combination service is unfair and has resulted in substantial adverse competitive effects on U.S. air carriers," the U.S. Department of Transportation noted in a tentative order on Thursday.

China slams move

China's Foreign Ministry spokesperson Guo Jiakun told a news conference in Beijing on Friday that American "restrictions on Chinese airline operations are detrimental to personnel exchanges between the two countries."

The U.S. proposal comes as Washington and Beijing work to negotiate a deal to end a bruising trade war, with a truce on most reciprocal tariffs extended to November 10.

Where there's a will

Education first: Students receive lessons in a classroom inside a concrete bunker to protect against air strikes in a village in Myanmar's Sagaing region. The military has increased air strikes every year since triggering the civil war with the 2021 coup. AFP

Violence in Pakistan after Islamists clash with police at rally

Associated Press
LAHORE

Violent clashes erupted on Friday between police and Islamists in Pakistan's Lahore after security forces tried to stop thousands of demonstrators from leaving for the capital, Islamabad, where they planned to stage a pro-Palestinian rally outside the U.S. Embassy, officials said.

The clashes in the capital of Punjab province began on Thursday but intensified Friday after police baton-charged the demonstrators and fired tear gas to disperse them at multiple locations. Protesters hurled stones at officers in response.

Tehreek-e-Labbaik Pakistan party (TLP) claimed that two of its supporters had been killed and 50 others injured. There was no immediate comment from the Punjab provincial government headed by Chief Minister Maryam Nawaz Sharif.

The protest comes after Hamas and Israel agreed to a ceasefire plan brokered by U.S. President Donald Trump.

Earlier, authorities had closed major roads leading to the capital and suspended mobile Internet services.

Taiwan President pledges to build air defence system in face of China threat

Associated Press
TAIPEI

Taiwan will accelerate the building of a "Taiwan Shield" or "T-Dome" air defence system in the face of the military threat from China, its leader said on Friday.

President Lai Ching-te also pledged to raise defence spending to more than 3% of GDP and to reach 5% by 2030.

"The increase in defence spending has a purpose," he said in an address to an outdoor crowd on Taiwan National Day. "It is a clear necessity to counter enemy threats and a driving force for developing our defence industries."

Lai Ching-te

Mr. Lai called Taiwan a "beacon of democracy" in Asia, drawing a distinction with China's one-party state.

"Democratic Taiwan ... will strive to maintain the status quo, protect peace and stability in the Taiwan Strait, and promote regional prosperity and development," he said.

The Chinese military regularly sends fighter jets and warships into the skies and waters off Taiwan and has staged major military exercises in the area in recent years.

'T-Dome' system

Mr. Lai said his government would establish a rigorous defence system with high-level detection and effective interception capabilities. His use of the phrase "T-Dome," short for Taiwan Dome, was an apparent reference to the Iron Dome system that Israel has developed.

It was not immediately clear if the "T-Dome" referred to a new defence system or if it was a new name for existing initiatives.

Mr. Trump has pressured Taiwan to increase military spending to 10% of its GDP. The "T-Dome" allows Taiwan to signal to the U.S. that it is increasing its defence spending rapidly, while keeping its military buildup defensive in nature, said Wen-Ti Sung, a fellow with the Atlantic Council.

A Chinese Foreign Ministry spokesperson on Friday criticised U.S. arms sales to Taiwan and military ties between Washington and Taipei.

"The Lai Ching-te authorities' attempt to seek independence through military means and resist reunification with force will only drag Taiwan into a perilous situation of military conflict," said spokesperson Guo Jiakun.

REMOTE SENSING APPLICATIONS CENTRE, U.P.
(An autonomous organization under Department of Science & Technology, Govt. of U.P.)
Sector-G, Jankipuram, Kursi Road, Lucknow- 226021 (U.P.)
Ph.: 0522-2730451, E-mail: director.rsac-up@gov.in

शुद्धि–पत्र

दिनांक 04.09.2025 को प्रकाशित ई–टेण्डर **2025_RSAC_1071249_1** में निविदा आमंत्रण की अंतिम तिथि 24.10.2025 तक विस्तारित करते हुए कतिपय शुद्धि–पत्र दिनांक 09.10.2025 को ई–टेण्डर पोर्टल **www.etender.up.nic.in** पर अपलोड किया गया है। कृपया तदानुसार टेण्डर में प्रतिभाग करने का कष्ट करें।

निदेशक

भారత ప్రభుత్వము
భారతీయ పురాతత్త్వ సర్వేక్షణ
అమరావతీ మండలము, విజయవాడ

ప్రకటన

ఎగువ ఫొటోలోని శ్రీ కూరెళ్ళ చైతన్య S/o శ్రీ కూరెళ్ళ సత్యనారాయణ ది. 12.04.2024 న సంస్కృతీ మంత్రిత్వ శాఖ, భారతీయ పురాతత్త్వ సర్వేక్షణ, అమరావతీ మండల పరిధిలోని శ్రీ బుగ్గరామలింగేశ్వర స్వామి దేవస్థానం, తాడిపత్రి, అనంతపురం జిల్లాలో ఎమ్. టి.ఎస్. గా నియుక్తుడైన దరిమిలా 12.07.2024 నుండి 09.12.2024 వరకు వేతన రహిత సెలవులను వాడుకున్న పిదప ఈ కార్యాలయ ఆదేశమును ఉల్లంఘించి విధులకు హాజరు కాకపోవుటచే సంజాయిషీ కోరుతూ ఇచ్చిన మూడు ఉత్తర్వులకు నియమిత కాలములో వివరణాత్మక సంజాయిషీ ఇవ్వకపోవుటచేతనూ, సదరు ఉత్తర్వులలో ఆదేశించినట్లుగా విధులకు హాజరు కాకపోవుటచేతనూ, సదరు శ్రీ కూరెళ్ళ చైతన్య, S/o శ్రీ కూరెళ్ళ సత్యనారాయణ ను ఈ పత్రికా ప్రకటన వెలువడిన మూడు దినముల లోపల సంజాయిషీ ఇవ్వవలసిందిగానూ మరియు సత్వరము విధులకు హాజరు కావాల్సిందిగానూ ఆదేశించటమైనది. పై ఆదేశములను ఉల్లంఘించిన యెడల సదరు శ్రీ కూరెళ్ళ చైతన్య, S/o శ్రీ కూరెళ్ళ సత్యనారాయణ ను తదుపరి సమాచారము ఇవ్వకనే నియుక్తాధికారుల అనుమతితో విధులనుండి బహిష్కరించబడునని తెలియపరచటమైనది.

ది.08.10.2025 పురాతత్త్వ అధీక్షకులు

Government of Karnataka
DIRECTORATE OF URBAN LAND TRANSPORT
URBAN DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT
OFFICE OF THE COMMISSIONER URBAN LAND TRANSPORT
BMTC, TTMC 'B' Block, (Above Bus Stand), 4th Floor, K.H.Road, Shanthinagar, Bengaluru-560027. Ph : 080-22226627 / 6628, Fax : 080-22226630, E-Mail : dultbangalore@gmail.com, dult@karnataka.gov.in

No: DULT-TECH/30/2024 **Date: 09.10.2025**

Extension of last date for submission of bids

This is to bring to the notice of all concerned that the notification published in newspaper on 04-09-2025 with respect to the tender for reputed consultancy service providers for the service of Preparation of a Comprehensive Mobility Plan for the following 9 cities, Karnataka, last date for submitting bid has been extended from **10-10-2025 5:30 pm** to **28-10-2025 at 5:30pm**. The bidders may download the tender documents from the Government of Karnataka website https://kppp. karnataka.gov.in.

Tender Numbers are as follows: **1) Hubli Dharwad:** DULT/2025-26/SE0022, **2) Mangaluru:** DULT/2025-26/SE0028, **3) Kalaburagi:** DULT/2025-26/SE0026, **4) Belagavi:** DULT/2025-26/SE0021, **5) Ballari:** DULT/2025-26/SE0020, **6) Vijayapura:** DULT/2025-26/SE0024, **7) Davanagere:** DULT/2025-26/SE0023, **8) Shivamogga:** DULT/2025-26/SE0025, **9) Tumakuru:** DULT/2025-26/SE0027.

Sd/-
Joint Director (Admin)
Directorate of Urban Land Transport
(Urban Development Department)

DIPR/CP/3175/SHIRDI SAI/2025-26

City leads globally in AI skill penetration: Priyank Kharge

'The State government was investing ₹1,000 crore to build innovation clusters across Mangaluru, Mysuru, Hubballi-Dharwad, and Belagavi'

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

Bengaluru's ecosystem leads globally in AI skill penetration and R&D output, ranking among the top five cities worldwide, said Priyank Kharge, Minister of Electronics, Information Technology & Biotechnology and Rural Development & Panchayat Raj.

"What sets us apart is our 3P model of People, Policy and Participation, which ensures every stakeholder, from academia to entrepreneurs, has a voice in shaping growth," he said, while delivering the inaugural address at CII's India Innovation Summit, INNOVERGE 2025 here on Friday.

IT Minister Priyank Kharge speaking at the India Innovation Summit – Innoverge 2025 organised by the Confederation of Indian Industry in Bengaluru on Friday. AFP

Innovation clusters

The State government was investing ₹1,000 crore to build innovation clusters across Mangaluru, Mysuru, Hubballi-Dharwad and Belagavi, ensuring that the benefits of growth reach every region, the Minister said.

Karnataka has evolved into one of the most disruptive innovation hubs in the world, powering breakthroughs from agritech to aerospace, he said, adding, "We are not just an investment destination but the global knowledge and skill capital. With 40% of India's R&D talent, 30% of all Global Capability Centres, and 48 of the country's 110 unicorns, Karnataka drives the nation's digital economy."

At the upcoming Bengaluru Tech Summit in November, the State would unveil the Future Makers track to showcase 20,000 start-ups and launch a ₹100 crore fund to identify India's top 50 AI companies, the Minister said.

The ecosystem

Speaking at the event, Gunjan Krishna, Commissioner for Industrial Development & Director, Department of Industries & Commerce, said, "Innovation thrives when academia, industry, start-ups, and government come together, that's the bridge we must build."

'As many as 20,000 start-ups and a ₹100 crore fund to identify India's top 50 AI companies will be unveiled in the upcoming Bengaluru Tech Summit in November'

Kamal Bali, former Chairman, CII Southern Region and president & managing director, Volvo Group India, said, "As AI and digitalisation converge, we are entering an era where idea generation and intelligent automation will redefine how we design, make, and move."

'Bengaluru's mobility story reflects its success and challenges'

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

Bengaluru, in the last year alone, added more than 7 lakh new vehicles to its roads, IT-BT Minister Priyank Kharge said on Friday.

Mobility symposium

On the day he attended a mobility symposium titled "Beyond Decongestion-Redesigning Urban Mobility for India" here on Friday, organised by MoveInSync, a technology firm, the Minister said on X, "Today, Bengaluru has over 1.2 crore registered vehicles – nearly 82 lakh two-wheelers and 25 lakh cars. Some 58,913 new vehicles were registered in August, 2025, alone."

He said that the city's mobility story reflected both its success and its challenges. "We are one of the fastest-growing cities in the world, with our GDP projected to grow at over 8.5% annually for the next decade," the Minister wrote on the platform.

City roads

While these numbers were a reflection of a growing city it was also an indication of why city roads were bursting at the seams," he stated, adding that the government is addressing these challenges.

The 2025 edition of the mobility symposium brought together policymakers, industry leaders, and civic innovators to advance sustainable, inclusive, and future-ready urban transport in India.

Y.S.V. Datta to be conferred award

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

Former MLA Y.S.V. Datta has been selected for the Jayaprakash Narayan Award 2025 by Bharata Yatra Kendra.

The selection committee included Karnataka Chitrakala Parishat president B.L. Shankar and B.R. Patil, Deputy Chairperson of the Karnataka State Policy and Planning Commission.

Government of Karnataka - Karnataka Forest Department
Office of the Assistant Conservator of Forests, Hosanagara Sub Division, Hosanagara.
District: Shivamogga, Taluk: Hosanagara,
e-Mail ID: acfhnr@gmail.com
No: ACF/HNR/KFDF-CANE-MPCA/CR-1/2025-26/CALL-2
Date:08.10.2025

Detailed e-Tender Notice (e-Tender Notice Through e-Procurement Portal)

Unitwar Tender is invited in two cover system through e-procurement portal from interested Forest Contractors having 05 (five) years of experience for implementation of total 11 Advance Works under KFDF, MPCA-MPDA& CANE Scheme of Approx. total Rs. 77.00 lakhs (CALL - 2)in the limits of various forest zones of Sagar Division for the year 2025-26. Last date for submission of Tender is fixed as:23.10.2025 up to 5.05 PM. Complete details of works and places are explained in the e-Procurement Portal. For further information this office can be contacted and details regarding the Tender can be obtained from the official website http://kppp.karnataka.gov.in

Sd/- Assistant Conservator of Forests, Hosanagara Sub Division, Hosanagara.

DIPR/smg/ksmca/25-26/40/10/1055

T. T. JAGANNATHAN
13.05.1948 - 09.10.2025

CHAIRMAN EMERITUS, TTK GROUP

A LEGEND IN HIS LIFETIME

Latha Jagannathan
Shanthi Ranganathan
Bhanu & T. T. Raghunathan
Nidhi & T. T. Mukund
Shabari & T. T. Lakshman
Maitri & (Late) T.T Venkatesh
and Grandchildren

ಕರ್ನಾಟಕ ಸರ್ಕಾರ
ಉಪ ನಿರ್ದೇಶಕರ ಕಛೇರಿ,
ಸಮಾಜ ಕಲ್ಯಾಣ ಇಲಾಖೆ ಕೊಪ್ಪಳ
ಜಿಲ್ಲಾ ಆಡಳಿತ ಭವನ, 1ನೇ ಮಹಡಿ, ಹೊಸಪೇಟೆ ರಸ್ತೆ, ಕೊಪ್ಪಳ.
Email ID:- dswo_koppal@yahoo.in

No: DDSWDK:EDN:Manpower service/kreis/Tender:CR-02:2025-26/ Dated: 09.10.2025

::- E-Tender ::-

Supply of Man power services through outsource for KREIS Residential Schools and colleges Working under Social Welfare & Tribal Welfare Department of Koppal District through KPPP **SWD/2025-26/SEO202/Call-2**

1.Tender Notification Date: **09.10.2025** 2.Amount Put to Tender: Approx Rs **387.19 lakhs** 3.Date of Commencement of Tender: **09.10.2025** 4.Pre-bid Meeting Date &Time (Subject to Changes): **16.10.2025** 11.00AM 5.Last Date and Time For Receipt of Tenders: **11.11.2025** 05.00PM 6.Date & Time For Opening of Technical Bid (Subject to Changes): **12.11.2025** 05.30 PM 7.Date & Time For Opening of Financial Bid (Subject to Changes): **15.11.2025** 12.00 PM 8.EMD: **Rs:5,81,000/-** 9.Address for Communication: **Deputy Director Social Welfare Dept First Floor District Administration Building Hospet Road Koppal** Mo.no.9480843039.

Sd/-Deputy Director
Social Welfare Department, Koppal

DIPR/Koppal/389/KSMCA/2025-26

ಕರ್ನಾಟಕ ಸರ್ಕಾರ
Govt of Karnataka
ಜಿಲ್ಲಾಧಿಕಾರಿಗಳ ಕಾರ್ಯಾಲಯ, ಬಾಗಲಕೋಟೆ – 587103
OFFICE OF THE DEPUTY COMMISSIONER, BAGALKOTE- 587103
Ph: 08354-235091 E-mail: dudc_bgk@yahoo.co.in, ltstaff dudc_bagalkote@yahoo.co.in
ಸಂಖ್ಯೆ:ಜಿನಕೋಬಾ:ನಗರೋತ್ಥಾನ ಹಂತ–4:2025–26 ದಿನಾಂಕ: 09.10.2025.

ಅಲ್ಪಾವಧಿ ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಪ್ರಕಟಣೆ
E-Proceurement portal ಮುಖಾಂತರ

ಕರ್ನಾಟಕ ಸಂಗ್ರಹಣೆಯಲ್ಲಿ ಪಾರದರ್ಶಕತೆ ಆದ್ಯಾದೇಶ 1999, ನಿಯಮಾವಳಿಗಳು 2000 ರಂತೆ ಬಾಗಲಕೋಟ ಜಿಲ್ಲೆಯ ವ್ಯಾಪ್ತಿಯಲ್ಲಿ ಬರುವ ಮಾನ್ಯ ಮುಖ್ಯ ಮಂತ್ರಿಗಳ ಅಮೃತ ನಗರೋತ್ಥಾನ ಹಂತ–4 ಹಾಗೂ ಇತರೆ ಕಾಮಗಾರಿಗಳಿಗೆ e-protal:https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in ಮುಖಾಂತರ ಟೆಂಡರನ್ನು ಆಹ್ವಾನಿಸಲಾಗಿರುತ್ತದೆ. ಟೆಂಡರನಲ್ಲಿ ದಿನಾಂಕ ಹಾಗೂ ಇತರೆ ತಿದ್ದುಪಡಿಗಳು ಇದ್ದಲ್ಲಿ ಇ–ಪೋರ್ಟಲ್‌ನಲ್ಲಿ ತಿಳಿಸಲಾಗುವದು, ಯಾವುದೇ ದಿನ ಪತ್ರಿಕೆಯಲ್ಲಿ ಪ್ರಕಟಿಸಲಾಗುವದಿಲ್ಲ.

ಇಂಡೆಂಟ ನಂ :

(1)DMA/2025-26/OW/WORK_INDENT45854/CALL-3
(2)DMA/2025-26/OW/WORK_INDENT45907/CALL-3
(3) DMA/2024-25/BD/WORK_INDENT37686/CALL-3

ಸೂಚನೆಗಳು : (1) Pre-bid Meeting Date:17.10.2025 at 1.30pm, (2) Last Date & Time for receip t of tenders 24.10.2025 at 04.00 pm. (3) Opening of Technical bid is on Dtd : 27.10.2025 at11.00 am, (4) Date & Time for Opening of Financial Bid Dtd : 03.11.2025 at 11.00 am.

ಸಹಿ/–ಕಾರ್ಯಪಾಲಕ ಅಭಿಯಂತರರು
ಜಿಲ್ಲಾ ನಗರಾಭಿವೃದ್ಧಿಕೋಶ ಬಾಗಲಕೋಟೆ.

DIPR/BGK/RO-NO-333/KSMCA/2025-26

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA, DEPARTMENT OF SPACE,
INDIAN SPACE RESEARCH ORGANISATION (ISRO)
CONSTRUCTION & MAINTENANCE GROUP
ISRO-TELEMETRY TRACKING & COMMAND NETWORK (ISTRAC), Plot No.12 & 13, 3rd Main, 2nd Phase,
Peenya Industrial Estate, Bengaluru-560 058. Ph:080-28094541, 4186

BRIEF E-TENDER NOTICE

1. On behalf of President of India, sealed **item rate E-Tenders** is invited online from Contractors of appropriate class for the following works.

1	Name of Work	**Replacement of Air Circuit Breakers (ACBs) in the existing LT Panel and Modification of Busbar at IDSN Campus, ISTRAC, Bengaluru.**	**Refurbishment of internal Electrification Wiring & light fittings of Substation & AHU Plant at SCC campus, ISTRAC, Bengaluru**
2	E-Tenders Notice	ISTRAC/CMG/E/MAINT/E-Tender-67/ 2025-26 Dated: 10.10.2025	ISTRAC/CMG/E/MAINT/E-Tender-68/ 2025-26 Dated: 10.10.2025
3	Estimated cost put to tender	**Rs. 23.81 Lakhs**	**Rs. 15.67 Lakhs**
4	Tender Document details	**E-Tenders**	**E-Tenders**
5	Period of completion in months reckoned from the 15th day of date of issue of work order	**Four (04) Months**	**Five (05) Months**
6	Period during which the tender document can be downloaded	**From 16.00 hrs on 11.10.2025 to 25.10.2025 till 16.00 hrs.**	
7	Bid clarification	**From 11.00 hrs on 12.10.2025 to 26.10.2025 till 16.00 hrs.**	
8	Last date and time of reply to Bid clarification	**27.10.2025 up to 16.00 hrs.**	
9	Last date & time of receipt of tenders	**28.10.2025 up to 16.00 hrs.**	
10	Due date and time of opening of tenders	**30.10.2025 after 11.00 hrs.**	
11	Earnest Money Deposit (EMD)	**Rs. 47,620/-**	**Rs. 31,340/-**

2. Interested Tenderers may please refer **Detailed Notice Inviting Tender** (NIT) for eligibility criteria and other details from website:**www.isro.gov.in.** and download the tender documents from **www.tenderwizard.com/ISRO.**

Sd/- Group Head, CMG

Women welcome move, unorganised workers seek inclusion

A union leader pointed out that while many employers argue that menstrual leave will discourage hiring women, similar arguments were raised globally against maternity leave at one point in time

Rishita Khanna
BENGALURU

A day after the Karnataka Cabinet's landmark decision to approve the Karnataka Menstrual Leave Policy-2025 that will ensure one day's paid leave in a month across government and private sectors, many women workers welcomed the move.

With this decision, Karnataka becomes the first State to cover both the government and private sectors in its menstrual leave policy. Odisha and Bihar have a policy for government employees while Kerala has implemented the policy in universities.

Gargi M., who works with a semiconductor firm in the city, said that while their work may not involve physical labour, women still need rest during menstruation. She added that the option of working from home does not necessarily help in such situations, and therefore, the policy approval is welcome.

Gender equity

Speaking to *The Hindu*, Uma Reddy, president of FKCCI, appreciated the policy from a gender equity perspective noting that as a woman, she would deem it a welcoming move, and an achievement for Karnataka for taking a lead. However, looking at it from the small and medium enterprises (SME) perspective, she said it raises questions about who is going to take up that extra one day work every month. "SMEs are already going through challenges, and this may further create a situation where women might not be preferred to be hired," Ms. Reddy feared.

Garments and Textiles Workers' Union leader Pratibha pointed out that while employers argue that additional cost will discourage hiring women, similar arguments were raised globally against maternity leave.

"The focus should be on macroeconomic benefits, encouraging greater female participation in the workforce rather than microeconomic decisions of individual firms. The implementation of menstrual leave will institutionalise the biological nature of menstruation and reduce presenteeism," Ms. Pratibha said.

Open conversatiom

Namrata Das, a psychiatrist, said that menstrual leave policy will help people have open conversations about menstruation both at work and in society at large.

She added that such conversations can reduce stigma, which is especially important for people dealing with menstrual health conditions.

"The social taboo around discussing menstruation often forces women to hide their discomfort from colleagues and even healthcare providers," she said.

In unorganised sector

Meanwhile, union leaders from multiple unorganised sectors stressed the need for inclusion of menstrual leave policy in unorganised sector too, under the provision through Labour Welfare Boards or similar mechanisms.

M. Chandrashekhar Dongre, union leader for plantation workers in Kodagu, Chikkamagaluru, and Hassan, said that they should be consulted to provide the same leave to the unorganised sector. Though difficult, these workers should get leave because they often work without benefits. While others may defend work-from-home options, these women do not even have such facilities.

Avani Chokshi, convening-body member of the IT and ITes Democratic Employees Association (IDEA), noted that a section of unorganised sectors can be given the leave benefits through the welfare board's purview just as they already receive other benefits such as free transport and marriage benefits. She insisted the government must draft rules to bring these sectors on board.

Existing laws

- **Bihar policy:** The State has had a menstrual leave policy in place since 1992. Two days per month
- **Kerala policy:** In January 2023, the State announced menstrual leave for students in all its universities under the Department of Higher Education

Private sector initiatives

- **Zomato policy** Introduced a menstrual leave policy in August 2020. Up to 10 days per year.
- **Swiggy policy** Offers two days of paid menstrual leave per month. No medical documentation required to avail
- **Zomato policy** Introduced a menstrual leave policy in August 2020. Up to 10 days per year.

Menstrual leave: Challenges of implementation

Rishita Khanna
BENGALURU

While Karnataka Cabinet's decision to approve one menstrual leave per month was much awaited, it has also raised concerns about its implementation in workplaces, with many questioning who will cover for employees taking menstrual leave, and how workflow will be maintained without disruptions.

Umesh A.H., Deputy Labour Commissioner, (Region-1), said that main challenge is workforce adjustments and understanding who will handle the work of those on leave, especially since manpower remains limited in both government and private sectors.

"Convincing private firms to implement a paid menstrual leave is also a challenge as most companies operate on a five-day work week. However, as society, we can overcome these challenges and will consider these aspects carefully while notifying the policy," he said.

Private firms resisting

While the Karnataka Cabinet has approved a menstrual leave policy allowing women to take 12 paid leaves a year, a section of private firms are resisting the move and questioning its need.

GETTY IMAGES

Employers argue that women already have access to earned, casual, and sick leave, along with flexible work-from-home options, and that an additional category could complicate leave structures and affect productivity.

Other points of view

The policy board committee had earlier also invited two rounds of suggestions from representatives and eminent academics to explain their stance.

Shruti M.P., personnel administration, Infosys, had pointed out that giving 12 menstrual leaves per year will create unequal issues in the workplace. Instead, it is better to give five days extra as sick leave to women who can utilise it only on a need basis. "Initiating one day menstrual leave could prove disadvantageous to women themselves as there is a possibility to lose employment opportunities," Ms. Shruti mentioned.

Kathyanini Chamaraj, executive trustee, CIVIC, Bangalore, also expressed reservations, arguing that this will also not be of help to agricultural labourers who are known to go back to work after delivering their babies.

"Women are still treated as untouchable during their periods, and if a woman takes leave at this time, it may cause resurgence of the practice of treating her as an untouchable. Menstrual leave policy may reduce women's employment, which is already low. It will stigmatise and depict women as weak," Ms. Chamaraj, in her suggestions, had said.

Speaking to *The Hindu*, a Chief Medical Officer representing the garment industry highlighted operational challenges. She noted that in garment factories, work is like a relay. "If 50 or 100 women take leave at once, the whole factory will come to a standstill... If leave has to be given, it has to be certified by a gynecologist. Menstrual leave can be misused," she said.

Karnataka Employers Association members and other officials from the Labour Department also mentioned that five days sick leave is a practical option.

Can be navigated

Sapna S., associate dean and HoD, School of Law, Christ (deemed to be) University and chairperson of the Menstrual Leave Policy Board, said that any law, particularly a new one, will face implementation issues, but can be and should be addressed.

"In female-dominated industries, concerns about multiple employees taking leave can be addressed with flexible options and policies. If discrimination occurs, grievance mechanisms should be available. Law alone is not a panacea, but these initiatives will improve retention and productivity," she said.

BIS seizes fake ISI-marked bottled water

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

In a crackdown on misuse of the ISI certification mark, the Bureau of Indian Standards (BIS), Bengaluru Branch Office, conducted a search and seizure operation on Thursday at S.P. Enterprises, in Bengaluru South. The raid was carried out under the supervision of Vinodini Kishore, Director.

During the operation, approximately 3,500 units of 1-litre and 2-litre PET bottles, as well as 20-litre water jars, were seized. These included products marketed under the brand names BISKIN and BISKIN Signature. BIS also confiscated associated labels and packing materials, all of which were found to be illegally bearing the ISI mark , a clear violation of the BIS Act, 2016.

IIIT-B researchers develop AI navigator for personalised STEM learning

Rishita Khanna
BENGALURU

To help students learn science and mathematics at their own pace with lessons that adapt like a personal guide, the researchers in the Web Science Lab at the International Institute of Information Technology Bangalore (IIIT-B) are developing an Artificial Intelligence (AI)-based system called Navigated Learning for STEM Education. The project is designed to guide each learner through a personalised pathway, making complex subjects easier to understand while also generating visuals and other supporting materials.

The initiative is being carried out with support from Gooru Learning, a California-based non-profit that has spent over 13 years developing the core "Learning Navigator" technology.

The idea behind Navigated Learning is like using GPS. Just as Google Maps shows the best route from your current location to your destination, this system identifies where a student stands in their learning and then suggests the most effective path forward. Unlike existing online platforms that give the same lessons to everyone, it adapts in real time to each student's strengths, weaknesses, and pace of study.

A file photo of the International Institute of Information Technology, in Electronics City. The initiative is being carried out with support from Gooru Learning, a California-based non-profit.

Three Master of Science (MS) students are working on the project under the guidance of Srinath Srinivasa, Dean, Research and Development and Sushree S. Behera, Assistant Professor, Department of Data Science and AI. Ashashree Sharma, one of the students is building models that track how students interact with each other in a classroom network to improve both individual progress and group learning.

Rishita Patel, another student is developing AI tools that can automatically generate high-quality diagrams and visuals, helping teachers explain and students grasp difficult concepts more easily. Suhan Roy is working on adaptive "learning maps" that chart the most efficient path for each student, ensuring they learn faster and with better results.

STEM education today suffers from lack of engagement due to one-size-fits-all approaches and lack of efficacy because institutions cannot track or prove learning outcomes in real-time.

However, the project aims to tackle both of the two big problems.

"Keeping students engaged is a major challenge, especially in online learning and continuing education. Navigated Learning offers an attractive way for learners to track and curate their own journeys," explained Prof. Srinivasa.

Prof. Behera added that through this project, they aim to bridge the gaps in traditional STEM education. "What makes this framework unique is that it places the student at the centre of the learning process and has the potential to change how personalised education should be seen and delivered."

Protesters attempt to lay siege to Minister's house

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

Around 100 protesters were detained on Friday after they attempted to lay siege to the residence of Social Welfare Minister H.C. Mahadevappa, demanding proper implementation of internal reservation. All the Protesters were released after a few hours.

The protest, led by Basavaraj Kautal, State Convener of the Scheduled Caste Alliance for Social Justice, involved multiple groups which tried to surround the Minister's house.

Detained

However, they were detained upon arrival and kept under preventive custody. The protesters demanded Mr. Mahadevappa's resignation, accusing him of delaying the implementation process.

According to the protesters, the H.N. Nagamohan Das Commission had categorised Scheduled Castes into five groups and made several recommendations on reservations. However, they alleged, the government reclassified them into three groups for its convenience, and the recommendations have not yet been implemented.

"Principal Secretary P. Manivannan has worked on the issue over the past two days and has promised to resolve it," Mr. Kautal said.

Protest in Delhi

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

In protest against alleged injustice to 'untouchable' nomadic communities in internal reservation being implemented in Karnataka, Karnataka Asprushya Alemari Samudayagala Maha Okkuta (a federation of nomadic communities) has announced an indefinite dharna, starting Saturday, in New Delhi.

They are demanding separate 1% reservation for nomadic communities in the internal reservation matrix.

Hotel fire: Case registered against owners

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

Bengaluru police have registered a case against the owners of a lodge, where two people died after a fire broke out on Monday.

The incident took place at the hotel on Akashavani Road near Attur Layout, according to the police. Kaveri Badigera, 25, from Bagalakot, and Ramesh Bandivaddar, 22, from Gajendraghad in Gadag district, were found dead inside Room 301 of Cool Comforts Hotel.

According to the FIR, Kaveri contacted her employer when the fire broke out, sending her location and requesting help. By the time he arrived, Ramesh had been burnt alive in the room, and Kaveri had died of suffocation inside the same room's washroom.

The complainant, Kaveri's employer, alleged that Cool Comforts Hotel did not have a fire exit or fire safety equipment.

Based on the complaint, Yelahanka New Town police have filed an FIR.

Timings
BENGALURU

SATURDAY, OCT. 11	
RISE	06:09 SET 18:03
RISE	21:51 SET 10:16
SUNDAY, OCT. 12	
RISE	06:09 SET 18:02
RISE	22:54 SET 11:22
MONDAY, OCT. 13	
RISE	06:10 SET 18:02
RISE	23:57 SET 12:22

Bengaluru Weather	max	min
Tumakuru	30	23
Mysuru	29	17
Bengaluru	29	20

Bengaluru Today
28°C The weather will be comfortabe. Night will be pleasant. Few spells of moderate to heavy rain and thundershower will occur.

Bengaluru Tomorrow
27°C Morning will be pleasant. Day will be comfortable. Few spells of moderate to heavy rain and thundershower to occur.

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THE HINDU
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Private hospitals threaten to halt paediatric surgeries under RBSK

Afshan Yasmeen
BENGALURU

The dispute dates back to 2016, when the State govt. introduced additional procedure codes under RBSK, without prior approval from the Centre

Demanding immediate reimbursement of over ₹23 crore dues pending since 2017 for paediatric surgeries done under Rashtriya Bal Swasthya Karyakram (RBSK), small and medium private hospitals in Karnataka have threatened to suspend their participation in the State's health schemes.

The hospitals, which said they are left with no option but to take legal recourse, said if the dues are not cleared at the earliest, they will halt paediatric surgeries under the State's Ayushman Bharat Arogya Karnataka (AB-ArK) health scheme. The dispute dates back to 2016, when the State government introduced additional procedure codes under RBSK, a centrally-funded health scheme under the National Health Mission (NHM), without prior approval from the Centre.

Private hospital authorities claimed that they acted in good faith on the published codes and provided critical services to ailing children between 2016 and 2018. However, audits later flagged that these codes lacked central clearance, leaving the claims stuck.

Technical glitch

Officials attribute the delay to a technical glitch in the listing of procedures on the portal of Suvarna Arogya Suraksha Trust (SAST), the nodal agency implementing the State's health schemes. The issue is now before the government.

RBSK was launched in 2013-2014 to improve survival, growth and development of children in the 0-18 years group.

Focusing on the screening of infants, children and young adults for 4 D's – Defects at birth, Deficiencies, Diseases, Developmental delays and Disabilities – the scheme initially covered a total of 40 medical procedures which subsequently increased to 104.

The scheme ensured children diagnosed with illness received follow-up care including early intervention services at the district level and including surgeries at tertiary level, free of cost under NHM. Services not available in government hospitals are made available in private empanelled hospitals.

Lack of clarity

Hospital associations contend that the responsibility for payment rests squarely with the State.

"The procedures were introduced by the State but not formally approved by the Centre. Hospitals performed the surgeries on the basis of the government's own notifications. The lack of clarity over financial responsibility has led to mounting dues, pushing hospitals to the brink. The dues must be cleared without further delay. If hospitals take a legal recourse, the government will have to pay the dues with interest," said Pavan Kumar Patil, a representative of the Indian Medical Association's Karnataka chapter and member of the Karnataka Medical Council (KMC). Despite repeated meetings with SAST officials and appeals to the government since 2018, payments have not been released.

"The prolonged delay has caused severe financial strain on hospitals, with many providers having invested significant resources to ensure timely and quality care for children," said L.H. Bidari, founder trustee of Yeshaswini health scheme. Dr. Bidari's hospital in Vijayapura has claims of over ₹54 lakh pending.

Fault on both sides

Harsh Gupta, Principal Secretary, Health and Family Welfare, acknowledged the protracted nature of the issue.

"This is a seven-year-old matter.. Once patients were admitted, pre-authorisation approvals were granted from the government side and hospitals went ahead and performed procedures despite being aware that the procedures are not approved by the Centre. So the responsibility lies on both sides," he said.

Mr. Gupta added that the matter is under review and will be placed before the State Cabinet. He clarified that if the Centre has not approved the additional procedures, the State government will have to bear the expenditure.

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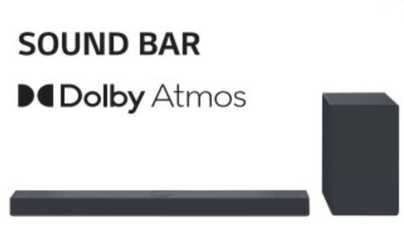

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CBC 01102/13/0006/2526

National Agricultural Science Complex, Pusa, Delhi **11 October, 2025** **10.30 AM**

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PUBLIC NOTICE

My client Sri. LOKESHA N. S/o. Sri. Ningaiah is interested in purchasing the schedule property mentioned hereunder for a valuable consideration from its owners Sri. Manish Kuriakose, S/o. Sri. C. T. Kuriakose, residing at No. 226, Hullahalli, Sakalawara Post, Anekal Taluk, Bangalore -560 083.

If any persons, banks, financial institutions etc., having any claims, right, title and interest whatsoever over the schedule property may forward their objections to the undersigned in writing with supporting documents of your such claims, within 7 days from the date of publication of this notice. Failing which it will be deemed that there are no claims, right, title and interest by anybody and my client will proceed for completion of sale transaction and thereafter no claims will be considered.

SCHEDULE PROEPRTY

Residential BMRDA approved Plot No. 344, in the residential Layout known as "GREGORIAN PARK DALE", vide approval No. BMRDA /LAO/105/2008-09 dated 19-06-2009 formed in converted land bearing Sy. No. 135, situated at Kuthaganahalli Village, Sarjapura Hobli, Anakal Taluk. Village Panchayath E-Khata No. 858/344, PID No.150200102200223238 measuring East to West : 40 Feet, and North to South: 30 Feet, in all measuring 1200 Sq. Feet., and bounded on: East by : Site Nos. 248 & 341, West by : 12 Mtrs., width Road, North by: Site No. 249, South by : Site No. 345.

MANJUNATHA & ASSOCIATES
K. N. MANJUNATHA CHARY, ROOPA. B,
B N Jagadish Kumar, Advocates,
#1010, 2nd Floor, 7th A Main Road,
1st Block, Koramangala, Bangalore - 560034,
Mob: 9845965626, 7406090832.
Bangalore, Date : 10-10-2025

PUBLIC NOTICE

This notice is issued on behalf of our client **Mr. D ARVIND, S/o S Dilip Kumar** to bring to the notice of the general public that the original **(1)** Sale deed dated 24.05.2005, Doc.No.6982-2005-06, CD.No.BLND176, **(2)** Sale deed dated 15.11.2006, Doc.No.52017-2006-07, CD.No.BLND358, and both are Regd in Sub-Registrar Bangalore North, B'lore, **(3)** Sale deed dated 11.04.2016, Doc.No.00073-2016-17, CD.No.GNRD118, Regd in Sub-registrar Gandinagara (Ganganagara), B'lore are missing / lost/ misplaced.

If any person/s, firm, company, institution or organization has any claim or holding the afore mentioned document, they may contact the undersigned in writing within **7 days** from the date of this notice failing which it will be presumed that there are no claims.

SCHEDULE PROPERTY

All that Property bearing New Corporation **No. 3,** Situated at **10th Cross Road, Kanakanagar, Bangalore** (Formerly BBMP No.19, Northern Portion of Site No. 551/17, at 10th Cross Kanakangar, Nagawara Village, Kasaba Hobli, Bangalore North Taluk, Bangalore BMP Ward No. 96, PID No. 96-133-19) now BBMP B'lore, Measuring ExW **30ft** & NxS **20 ft** in all **600 Sq feet** together with a building standing thereon & bounded on:

East by : Property No. 551/18. West by : Property No. 551/16. North by : Road. South by : Portion of Site No. 19

Shivakumar, Advocate
M/s. RASHI LEGAL
No.B2-1250/51, Manu Teja Towers, A Dasarahalli Magadi Main Road, Bangalore (North) -560079
M-9538178060
Place: Bengaluru Dated: 11th October 2025

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PUBLIC NOTICE

The original sale deed dated 22.01.1996 vide registered Document No.9979/95-96, Book-I, registered in the office of Su-Registrar at Bengaluru South, executed by Munigaiah @ Muniyappa S/o Koora in.favour of Seenappa @ Srinivasaredy S/o Lakshmaiah Reddy, in respect of immoveable land bearing Sy. No.77, measuring 1 acre 1 ½ guntas out of 2 acre 3 guntas, situated at Bettadasanapura Village, Beguru Hobli, Bengaluru South Talluk, is lost. In this regard a police complaint is also lodged. **After the death of the said** Seenappa @ Srinivasareddy **as his LR's namely Vimalamma, Shabitha.N, Manjunatha, Sarasa, Nagaraju and Nithin** have got transferred the mutation to their names in the revenue records and **being the absolute owners of the land are issuing the above public notice.** In the event of any objections or if anybody finds the original sale deed dated 21.01.1996 the same may kindly be returned to the address below.

Manjunath K.V. & Associates, Advocates,
No.3/1(Old NO.359), 1st Floor,
14th Cross, 4th Main, Sadashivanagar,
Bangalore -560 080, Ph: 080 23618018

PUBLIC NOTICE

The original sale deed dated 22.01.1996 vide registered Document No.9981/95-96, Book-I, registered in the office of Su-Registrar at Bengaluru South, executed by Munigaiah @ Muniyappa S/o Koora in favour of Baiyyareddy S/o Lakshmaiah Reddy, in respect of immoveable land bearing Sy. No.77, measuring 1 acre 1 ½ guntas out of 2 acre 3 guntas, situated at Bettadasanapura Village, Beguru Hobli, Bengaluru South Talluk, is lost. In this regard a police complaint is also lodged. **After the death of the said** Baiyyareddy **as his LR's namely Sugunamma, Naveen Kumar and Praveen Kumar** have got transferred the mutation to their names in the revenue records and **being the absolute owners of the land are issuing the above public notice.** In the event of any objections or if anybody finds the original sale deed dated 22.01.1996 the same may kindly be returned to the address below.

Manjunath K.V. & Associates, Advocates,
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JAIPUR DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY

Indira Circle, Jawahar Lal Nehru Marg, Jaipur-302004

No:- JDA/EE & TA to Dir. Engg.-I/2025-26/ Date : 10.10.2025

NOTICE INVITING BID

NIB No.: EE & TA to Dir. Engg.-I/28/2025-26

Bids are invited from interested bidders for following works: -

S. No.	UBN No.	Cost of Work (Lacs)	Nature of Work	Last Date
1	JDA2526WSOB00445	283.16	Road	29.10.2025
2	JDA2526WLRC00447	915.00	Sewer Line (RC)	10.11.2025

Other particulars of the respective bid may be visited on Procurement Portal website www.sppp.rajasthan.gov.in, www.eproc.rajasthan.gov.in and www.jda.rajasthan.gov.in.

Executive Engineer & TA to Dir.Engg-I

राज.संवाद / सी / 25 / 11944

Town Municipal Council Office, Tarikere, Chikkamagaluru District.

e-mail: ka.tarikere.tmc@gmail.com Tel 08261 222233
www.tarikeretown.gov.in
No:TMC/JE/CR/enterprises fund/01/25-26 D:03.10.2025

E-tender Notice

E-tender has been invited from eligible contractors through e-procurement (https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in) for the construction of a high-tech vegetable and flower-fruit market on the municipal land behind Sarjaa Hanumappa Nayak Private Bus Stand under Tarikere Town Municipal Council (TMC), under the Enterprise Fund of Tarikere Town Municipal Council (TMC). Interested contractors/parties should visit the website https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in for more details. **Work Indent No.:** DMA/2025-26/BD/WORK INDENT39636

1. Last date for submission of e-tender: 03.11.2025 at 17:30 PM **2.** Date of opening of Technical Bid: 05.11.2025 at 11:30 AM **3.** Date of opening of Financial Bid: 06.11.2025 at 11:30 AM

Sd/- (Shri Vasantakumar) Chairman, Town Municipal Council (TMC), Tarikere
Sd/- (Shri Anjay Anil Kumar Menazes) Chairman, Standing Committee,

Sd/- (Shri T. O. Vijayakumar) Chief Officer (In-charge), Tarikere Town Municipal Council (TMC), Tarikere

DIPR/CKM/KSMCA/25-26/82/1047

ODISHA MODEL TRIBAL EDUCATION SOCIETY (OMTES)
ST & SC DEVELOPMENT, M & BCW DEPARTMENT, GOVERNMENT OF ODISHA

ADDENDUM

An addendum to the Request for Proposal (RFP) No. 865 dated 26/09/2025 has been uploaded on the official websites of ST & SC Development Department and OMTES, regarding the conduct of the 4th National EMRS Sports Meet, 2025, scheduled to be held in Sundargarh District from **11th to 15th November 2025**.

For details of the Addendum, please visit website - **www.omtes.org** and **http://stsc.odisha.gov.in**.

Sd/-
Secretary, OMTES

CAD- OIPR - 26009/11/0012/2526

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Ministry of Ayush , Government of India. 68, Ashok Road, New Delhi-110001
Ph. 23730417-18, 23351099. Telefax:011-23711657 Email: dir-mdni nic.in Website: www. olamdni .nic.in

Applications are invited from eligible candidates for engagement on Direct Recruitment to work at Morarji Desai National institute of Yoga (MDNIY), in the positions given as under:

Sl.No.	Name of the Post	No. of Posts/ Category	Pay Scale
1	Private Secretary	01 (UR)	Level-07(Rs.44900-142400)
2	Assistant Research Officer (ARO) Yoga	01 (UR)	Level-07 (Rs.44900-142400)
3	Yoga Instructor	01 UR (EWS)	Level-06 (Rs.35400-112400)
4	Accountant	01 (UR)	Level-06 (Rs.35400-112400)
5	Assistant	01 (UR)	Level-06 (Rs.35400-112400)
6	Caretaker	01 (UR)	Level-04 (Rs.25500-81100)
7	Multi-tasking Staff (MTS)	03 UR (including 01 EWS)	Level-01 (Rs.18000-56900)

• Method of Recruitment for the above posts - By Direct Recruitment

Details of qualifications, experience and other terms & conditions of engagement on these posts can be obtained from the Institute's website **www.voeamdniv.nic.in**.

Interested candidates possessing the requisite qualifications, experience, etc. may send their application in the prescribed format along with copies of testimonials duly self-attested and two recent passport size photographs addressed to The Director, Morarji Desai National Institute of Yoga, 68-Ashok Road, New Delhi-110001. Last date for receipt of Hard C'opy of application in MDNIY is 45 days from the date of publication of Advertisement in Employment News.

Cbc 17213/12/0004/2526 **DIRECTOR**

JHARKHAND MEDICAL & HEALTH INFRASTRUCTURE DEVELOPMENT & PROCUREMENT CORPORATION LTD.

MCH BUILDING, RCH CAMPUS, NAMKUM, RANCHI – 834010.
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Website: https://jmhidpcl.jharkhand.gov.in/
GST NO: 20AADCJ4293L2ZH, PAN NO: AADCJ4293L

Tender No: JMC/NIT-25/LABS/15 **Date:10.10.2025**

TENDER FOR EMPANELMENT OF ANALYTICAL LABORATORIES.

The **Managing Director**, JMHIDPCL, Namkum, Ranchi hereby invites separate Technical and Commercial Bids (Two Envelope System) through e-tender from WHO/NABL ACCREDITED ANALYTICAL LABORATORIES for testing of Drugs and other items.

The Blank tender documents with detailed conditions can be downloaded through web site http://jharkhandtenders.gov.in and should be submitted through e-procurement system only. The eligible bidders willing to participate must necessarily be registered in e-Procurement portal.

Sl.No.	Particulars	Details
1	Name of Work	Empanelment of Analytical Lab.
2	Time of Completion	Within 30 days after issue of work order
3	Date of Publication of Tender on website	13.10.2025
4	Pre-Bid Meeting Date/Time	17.10.2025at 3.00 PM
5	Date / time for receipt of bids	31.10.2025 to 06.11.2025at 5.00 PM
6	Date of Technical Bid opening	07.11.2025 at .500 PM
8	EMD	Rs.10,000.00 (Online Payment Gateway)
9	Contact no. of procurement person	8709368893.

Note: The above dates may change due to declaration of holidays.

JMHIDPCL Ranchi reserves the right to amend or withdraw any of the terms and conditions contained in the Tender Document including quantity/amount of items to be supplied or to reject any or all tenders without giving any notice or assigning any reason. The decision of the Managing Director, JMHIDPCL, Namkum, Ranchi in this regard shall be final.

Detailed tender document can be seen and applied through website http://jharkhand tenders.gov.in only.

PR 363778 Jharkhand Medical & Health Infrastructure Dev & Procurement Corp Ltd(25-26).D

Sd
Managing Director. JMHIDPCL

GOVERNMENT OF TELANGANA
DEPARTMENT OF MINES AND GEOLOGY

Email: dmgtg-mines@telangana.gov.in

RFP No.1247095/P/2021 Dated: October,10.2025

NOTICE INVITING TENDER

Engagement of Consultant for Framing of Telangana State Mineral Policy and Compendium of State Minor Mineral Rules

The Department of Mines and Geology, Government of Telangana invites sealed bids from eligible and experienced agencies for Engagement of Consultant for Framing of Telangana State Mineral Policy and Compendium of Minor Mineral Rules across the State of Telangana.

The detailed Request for Proposal (RFP) document, including information on eligibility criteria, scope of services, time schedule, bid processing fee, EMD/bid security, bidding parameters, submission and evaluation process, terms and conditions, and other relevant details, can be downloaded from the official website:
www.mines.telangana.gov.in
(https://mines.telangana.gov.in/MinesAndGeology/Views/TendersAndNotification.aspx).

The start date for availability of the RFP Document is **11.10.2025** and the last date for submission of bids is **17.10.2025 on or before 17:00 hours (IST).**

Any update, corrigendum, addendum, etc. shall be made available only at the
www.mines.telangana.gov.in
(https://mines.telangana.gov.in/MinesAndGeology/Views/TendersAndNotification.aspx

Sd/- Director (FAC)
DIPR R.O.No.697-PP/CL-AGENCY/ADVT/1/2025-26 Dt:10.10.2025 **Department of Mines & Geology**

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
DEPARTMENT OF SPACE
INDIAN SPACE RESEARCH ORGANISATION
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CORRIGENDUM-I DT: 10.10.2025

On behalf of President of India, **Item rate E-Tender** is invited from Contractors of appropriate class for the following work.

NIT No.	**ISTRAC/CMG/E/CON/E-Tender-41/ 2025-26, dated 18.09.2025**
Description of work	**Upgradation of sub-station, replacement and augmentation of normal supply MV auxiliary panels at SCC, ISTRAC, Bengaluru (2nd Call)**
Estimated Cost put to tender	**Rs. 26.44 Lakhs**
Tender document details	**E-tender**
Period of completion	**Four (04) months**
Period during which the tender document can be downloaded	From 16.00 hrs. on 19.09.2025 to 04.10.2025 till 16.00 hrs. **Extended up to 19.10.2025 up to 16.00 hrs.**
Bid clarification	From 11.00 hrs. on 20.09.2025 to 07.10.2025 till 16.00 hrs. **Extended up to 20.10.2025 up to 16.00 hrs.**
Last date and time of reply to bid clarification	08.10.2025 up to 16.00 hrs. **Extended up to 21.10.2025 up to 16.00 hrs.**
Last date and time for receipt of tenders	09.10.2025 up to 16.00 hrs. **Extended up to 22.10.2025 up to 16.00 hrs.**
Due date and time of opening of tenders	10.10.2025 after 11.00 hrs. **Extended up to 24.10.2025 after 11.00 hrs.**
EMD	**Rs. 52,880/-**

Interested tenderers may please refer Detailed Notice Inviting Tender (NIT) for eligibility criteria and other details in website **www.isro.gov.in** and download the tender documents from **www.tenderwizard.com/ISRO**

Sd/- Group Head, CMG

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HOMES AND REAL ESTATE NEWS

thehindu.com/features/homes-and-gardens

THE HINDU

COVER

Diwali is coming. So is the noise

As urban homeowners look to pad walls and seal windows to keep inside noise in and outside noise out, some tips

Rashmi Gopal Rao

In today's increasingly hectic and fast-paced world, where cities are growing denser and noise has become a constant companion, silence feels like a true luxury. Concepts such as quiet holidays, silent retreats and even dedicated silent days observed in some countries are not uncommon any more.

Hence, it is no surprise that a lot of emphasis is placed on creating quiet homes that provide an oasis of peace, privacy, and comfort. "In the current times, soundproofing is integral to creating homes that support well-being. External noise from traffic, construction, or even neighbourhood activities can significantly affect sleep, focus, and emotional balance.

"Thoughtful acoustic strategies help homeowners feel at peace in their private spaces, especially in high-density cities. Just as natural light and ventilation are essential to comfort, so is the quality of silence within a home," says Kuntal Vyas Aggarwal, founder and design head, Resaiki Interiors and Architecture Design Studio.

Acoustic comfort directly affects how we rest, concentrate, and even interact with one another. "In today's homes, acoustics should not be an afterthought as they are fundamental to how we feel in a space. Whether you are working, meditating, watching TV or simply sharing a meal, background noise can subconsciously affect comfort and clarity," says Sneha Ostawal, founder and principal designer, Source Architecture. "Passive and active sound control strategies are essential, especially in Indian metros where external sound sources are unavoidable. Soundproofing also helps define emotional zoning. A quiet bedroom, a cocooned workspace or even a soft, echo-free living room; these things matter now more than ever before." Room orientation, wall assemblies, and ceiling systems should be designed with acoustic performance in mind.

Furthermore, research indicates that constant noise can fuel stress, disrupt sleep, and deplete productivity; therefore, designers make an effort to incorporate calmness into the home through improved acoustic performance. "The rise of remote work and hybrid lifestyles means homes must function as offices, classrooms and studios, making acoustic comfort crucial for daily activities. Buyers expect acoustic separation in bedrooms, bathrooms and home theatres," says Neha Bagait, studio principal, Vinciago by Livspace. "Developers also pitch soundproofing as a differentiator, which enhances value and appeals to potential buyers. New-age materials such as acoustic panels, insulated glass and eco-friendly composites help deliver a double win: quieter spaces and greater energy efficiency."

Key architectural strategies

Active soundproofing first involves examining the sources of noise, whether external or internal, and then formulating a plan to address them in targeted ways. "Heavy materials like thick concrete walls and brick will limit external noise, while acoustic insulation, acoustic panels, and double-glazed windows reduce noise emanating from inside. Spatial layout is also important; we would usually want bedrooms near the least noisy part of a community," explains Nimish Shashikant Ajmera, head of design and director, Ajmera Group. "Creating a buffer like hallways and passages, away from noisy areas or the source of the sound, is a good idea. Integration should happen at the design level to avoid costly add-ons down the line."

Material selection is also important; some natural products like timber, cork, or acoustic boards work nicely as a sound-absorbing material. Furnishings such as drapes, carpets, and rugs help soften indoor echoes too. Natural wood flooring, fluted wall panels, and layered curtains do more than look pretty; they reduce reverb and footfall sounds.

Airtight windows

Another popular strategy is to strengthen the building envelope with double-layer partitions and airtight windows and doors. "Plan interior layouts with clear quiet zones and buffer spaces, and reinforce acoustic separation between floors or between units in multi-family buildings," adds Bagait. Double-glazed or laminated windows with deep reveals have become a go-to; they allow in light, but not chaos. They also help in reducing vibrations and maintaining thermal comfort. "Never leave the ceiling as a bare echo chamber. Even a simple wooden cladding or a recessed grid can shift the acoustic feel of a space," shares Ostawal. Raised flooring with insulated layers or ceilings treated with PU foam reduces airborne as well as impact noise. Creating acoustic barriers and green walls is yet another strategy. "Landscaped walls, vertical gardens, or strategically placed dense plantations create a natural buffer that softens sound while improving air quality. Cavity walls with glass wool framing, perforated panelling, or fabric quilting ensure that noise from one room does not disrupt another," adds Aggarwal.

Soundproofing is not merely about blocking sound; it is about curating acoustic comfort, a condition where desirable sounds are preserved and disruptive ones are absorbed or deflected. "In such a context, the home becomes a sonic envelope. Airborne noise [such as voices and traffic] requires mass and density: consider mass-loaded vinyl, acoustic drywall and sealed windows," says Akshat Bhatt, principal architect, Architecture Discipline. "Structure-borne noise [such as footsteps and machinery] requires decoupling strategies, including resilient channels, floating floors and double-stud walls." He also adds that it helps to deploy diffusive surfaces to scatter sound evenly, especially in media rooms or auditoriums. Soundproofing is often a mix of science, material craft, and intuition.

The Bengaluru-based freelance writer is passionate about all things design, travel, food, art and culture.

THE HINDU
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Crime patterns

The 2023 NCRB report shows rise in cybercrime and crimes against tribals

The National Crime Records Bureau's annual reports on crime and prison statistics have to be read with a strong caveat – most of the numbers cannot be compared between States because they are largely dependent upon the registration/reporting of crimes in the first place. However, certain national trends and sharp year-on-year changes within States can still reveal meaningful patterns that could demand policy intervention. The recent NCRB report for 2023 – delayed by a year – points to a worrying trend of postponed surveys, reports and even the Census under the current Union Government. But there are also three telling numbers: the 2.8% decrease in murder cases across the country; a staggering 28.8% surge in crimes against Scheduled Tribes (ST), and a 31.2% increase in cyber crimes. While the decrease in murder cases will come as a relief to law enforcement – most of the cases pertain to disputes, personal vendetta or enmity and "gain" – the other two numbers are alarming. The steep rise in crimes against STs is largely due to the ethnic violence in Manipur, with the registered numbers jumping from just one in 2022 to 3,399 in 2023 – which a more effective government could have mitigated. Madhya Pradesh and Rajasthan also recorded significantly high crime rates against tribals suggesting their vulnerability in the central Indian States. This is not a new phenomenon; previous NCRB reports have highlighted higher crime rates in regions with significant tribal populations.

With greater Internet penetration across the country, there has been an increase in cybercrime, particularly related to financial fraud and sexual exploitation. Anecdotally, it is evident that these numbers must have gone up even further in the last two years with the greater use of digital financial instruments in daily transactions and investment. While policing has tried to keep up with the growing menace of cybercrime, with specialised cells, the ubiquitousness and deepening spread of digital crimes require more sophistication and dedication by the police to tackle them. Crimes against children rose by 9.2% in 2023 – with the offender known to the victim in 96% of the cases. While the increase could be a function of improved reporting across States, the high number (1,77,335 cases) suggests that States must work on a war footing to sensitise children about these crimes and inappropriate behaviour by adults. A subset of these crimes could also include the application of the POCSO Act in the case of consensual adolescent relationships and this is an area that needs to be carefully handled by the prosecuting and policing agencies. Reported crimes against women registered a modest increase of 0.4%, but this masks a 14.9% spike in dowry-related crimes, pointing to a persistent societal problem.

Making sense

Krasznahorkai gets recognition for melancholic stories in an absurd world

At a time of two wars in the world, a writer described as a "master of the apocalypse" has been awarded the Nobel Prize in Literature for 2025. Hungarian author László Krasznahorkai was chosen by the Swedish Academy "for his compelling and visionary oeuvre that, in the midst of apocalyptic terror, reaffirms the power of art". The 71-year-old novelist and screenwriter has won many accolades and was a perennial candidate. Often compared to greats such as Franz Kafka, Fyodor Dostoevsky and Herman Melville, his dystopian, absurd and melancholic stories mirror life in Hungary under oppression and beyond in the pre and post-fall of the Iron Curtain era, with a chilling resonance to contemporary times. He gained recognition with his 1985 novel of ideas, *Satantango*, translated into English by George Szirtes in 2012. It revolves around a group of destitute residents of a collective farm on the eve of the fall of communism, waiting for a miracle, which needless to say would not happen. The tone is set with the epigraph, from Kafka's *The Castle*: 'In that case, I'll miss the thing by waiting for it.' Krasznahorkai has collaborated with film-maker Béla Tarr to adapt his works for the cinema. With his second book, *The Melancholy of Resistance*, he began to be hailed as a postmodern visionary. It was published in Hungarian in 1989, when the wall came down, and first translated into English in 1998.

In *The Melancholy*, a circus comes to a town with the carcass of a giant whale, and sinister happenings follow. His unbroken sentences – like a fellow laureate, Jon Fosse, Krasznahorkai too often omits full stops – are often deemed difficult and demanding. His translator calls Krasznahorkai's work "a slow lava flow of narrative, a vast black river of type". Krasznahorkai's travels to China and Japan in the early 2000s inspired his contemplative novel, *Seiobo There Below*. The breadth of his oeuvre is evident in the homage he pays to literary giants: Dostoevsky's *The Idiot* gets a relook in Baron Wenckheim's *Homecoming*; Melville's ghost haunts *Spadework for a Palace: Entering the Madness of Others*, a story set in Manhattan. In an interview to writer Hari Kunzru for *The Yale Review*, Krasznahorkai says "the apocalypse is now", pointing out that "hell and heaven are both on earth, and they are here now". About the role of art in the future, he says: "Art is humanity's extraordinary response to the sense of lostness that is our fate." By awarding literature's top prize to Krasznahorkai, the Swedish Academy signals that it is turning to serious but innovative literature and art in a world where little makes sense.

Unemployment is still a core issue in Bihar

Jignesh Mevani

is a Member of the Legislative Assembly in Gujarat and Convener at the Rashtriya Dalit Adhikar Manch

Unemployment has consistently emerged as one of the most pressing political issues in Bihar. In the last two Assembly elections, jobs and livelihood were among the top concerns. In 2015, post-poll surveys conducted by Lokniti-CSDS showed that 'unemployment/jobs' was the most important issue for 9.1% of voters. By 2020, this percentage rose to nearly 21.0%, making it the second most important issue for voters. With the employment scenario still grim, it is an issue that is likely to dominate voter priorities in the forthcoming polls.

The situation needs to be looked at objectively, for which official statistics are useful. Under the Periodic Labour Force Survey (PLFS), the latest State-level indicators on employment are the April-June 2025 quarterly report and the July 2023-June 2024 annual report, with insights on Bihar.

Looking beyond the unemployment rate

The quarterly and annual releases cite Bihar's unemployment rate as 5.2% and 3%, respectively, whereas it was 5.4% and 3.2%, respectively, at the national level for ages 15 and above. To the casual reader, Bihar's employment/unemployment picture seems decent to good. However, such a superficial reading is misleading. To truly understand employment conditions, one must understand three interrelated indicators in the PLFS – Worker Population Ratio (WPR) or share of the population that is employed; Labour Force Participation Rate (LFPR) or the share of the population either employed or actively seeking work, and Unemployment Rate (UR) or share of the labour force that is unemployed and actively looking for work.

Looking at the UR in isolation conceals the true picture. The same quarterly and national releases cite the WPR for Bihar at 46.2% and 51.6%, respectively while the national WPR is 52% and 58.2%, respectively, which shows that the share of those employed in the working age population is much lower in Bihar.

On checking the WPR and LFPR in the *table*, Bihar has low WPR, low LFPR, and therefore low UR. A more holistic interpretation is grim because many in Bihar are not working (low WPR), and many are not even looking for work (low LFPR).

> Bihar needs a strategy to revive education, create formal jobs and stem the outmigration of its workforce

Since those not working are not even looking for work, the unemployment rate looks deceptively low. This is a classic manifestation of the "Discouraged Worker Effect" wherein people without jobs lose hope of finding employment opportunities and completely withdraw from the labour force

A comparison of Bihar with similar/comparable States strengthens the inference and shows how bad employment conditions are in Bihar. But it is important to compare Bihar against States of a similar size and economic background. In this, two factors are crucial in determining similarity: population and per capita income.

For a meaningful comparison, Bihar was grouped with nine large, low-income States (population above three crore as in the Registrar General of India's 2024 projections, per capita income below national average for 2025-25).

There are nine States that fall under this criteria, which are Assam, Bihar, Chhattisgarh, Jharkhand, Madhya Pradesh, Odisha, Rajasthan, Uttar Pradesh and West Bengal.

When Bihar's indicators are compared with the chosen group of States, the results are alarming. Bihar ranks the lowest across WPR and LFPR. Uttar Pradesh fares marginally better but still hovers near the bottom.

The quarterly PLFS (April-June 2025) shows that among youth (15-29 years), the picture is even bleaker: only 28 out of 100 are working. Bihar is at the bottom in terms of youth work participation and youth labour force participation. For a generation that should be building its future, the doors of employment remain closed.

Since quarterly figures may be influenced by seasonal fluctuations in employment, it is important to look at the annual PLFS estimates as well. Quarterly estimates are based on Current Weekly Status, in which the reference period used to determine a person's employment status is just seven days.

The annual report also presents Usual Status: principal+subsidiary status), or figures which give a more comprehensive and stable picture of employment over a long term, minimising the distortions caused by short-term variations such as festivals, illness or crop cycles. It also captures people's subsidiary work. However, these annual figures too reinforce the same conclusion. For those aged 15 years and above, Bihar's WPR stands at 51.6% and LFPR at 53.2%, which are abysmally low. Only Bihar and Uttar Pradesh fall below 60% in WPR.

The situation is grave for women. Bihar's female WPR is only 30.1%, or out of 100 women aged 15 years and above, only 30 are working. The situation is even more distressing for young women. In the 15-29 age group, Bihar's female work participation rate stands at 31.2%, while neighbouring Jharkhand records 49.3%, which is nearly 20 percentage points higher.

The quality of jobs in Bihar is equally troubling. Only 8.7% of workers are engaged in regular wage/salaried jobs, the lowest among comparable States. Bihar is the only State – not just in this group but also in the entire country – with a single digit proportion. At the same time, 23.8% of workers are employed as casual labourers, the highest share after Odisha across these States. This indicates a lack of secure and formal employment opportunities.

Such outcomes are in stark contrast to the claims of the National Democratic Alliance, which often highlights the formalisation of the economy as one of its achievements. In Bihar, however, the labour market remains overwhelmingly informal, insecure and poorly remunerated.

Migration and the missing numbers

A caveat must be kept in mind while interpreting Bihar's employment indicators. The PLFS counts only those individuals residing in the State during the reference period. The employment picture could have been better had the PLFS been capturing migration as well.

The grim labour market outcomes cannot be separated from Bihar's governance record. Chief Minister Nitish Kumar's government has failed to improve literacy and human capital formation. The same PLFS (annual) shows Bihar's literacy rate at only 73.2% for the 5-plus age group, which is far below the national average. Without significant improvements in education and skills, the State cannot hope to generate meaningful employment opportunities.

Despite frequent announcements, investment summits and promises of industrial revival, little has materialised on the ground. Mr. Kumar's political manoeuvres and shifting alliances have yielded little tangible benefits for Bihar's economy. The State has underperformed be it education, job creation, industrialisation and formalisation.

The employment crisis in Bihar is not a matter of perception but one of hard evidence. PLFS data consistently reveal that Bihar lags in all key labour market indicators. Mr. Kumar's tenure of nearly two decades as the Chief Minister has failed to address these structural weaknesses. For a State with such a young population, this represents not just a missed opportunity but a potential social crisis in the making.

Bihar urgently needs a comprehensive strategy to revive education, create formal jobs, and stem the outmigration of its workforce. Anything short of this risks perpetuating the cycle of poverty, migration, and underdevelopment that has long haunted the State.

A true picture The employment crisis in Bihar is not a matter of perception but one of hard evidence

	Quarterly (April-June 2025)*				Annual (July 2023-June 2024)**									
	WPR	LFPR	WPR (15-29)	LFPR (15-29)	WPR	LFPR	WFPR (15-29)	LFPR (15-29)	Female WPR	Female LFPR	Female WPR (15-29)	Female LFPR (15-29)	Proportion of regular wage salary workers	Proportion of casual labour workers
Assam	57.9	60.8	40.7	48.2	64.3	66.9	44	51.3	48.1	50.2	30	35.1	18.9	19.7
Bihar	46.2	48.8	28.3	33.9	51.6	53.2	31.2	34.6	30.1	30.5	14.2	14.8	8.7	23.8
Chhattisgarh	55.1	59.8	39.6	48.3	69.7	71.5	57.8	61.7	58.1	59.5	47.6	50.6	15.9	18.5
Jharkhand	47.3	49.4	30.7	35.6	63	63.8	49.3	51.1	49.6	49.8	38	38.6	12.9	19
MP	54.8	57.2	41.2	45.8	68.3	68.9	56.6	58.1	51.9	52.3	37.4	38.1	13.2	18.6
Odisha	50.3	53.7	33.7	42.1	62.9	64.9	46.3	52.1	48	49.4	33.7	37.6	13.6	24.4
Rajasthan	53.9	59.1	35.5	45.4	61.7	64.4	44.1	50.4	48.9	50.9	31.7	36.5	18.8	12.5
Uttar Pradesh	47.7	50.2	32.1	37.1	55.1	56.9	39	42.9	33.6	34.5	20	21.8	12.4	14.9
West Bengal	54.9	57	39.2	44.7	59.6	61.1	41.6	49	39.2	40.4	28.1	31.2	20.4	23.1
All-India	52	55	35.8	42	58.2	60.1	41.7	46.5	40.3	41.7	25.6	28.8	21.7	19.8

Source: PLFS, Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation, Government of India. All figures are in %; unless otherwise specified, WPR and LFPR are reported for all persons aged 15 years and above | *Current Weekly Status (CWS) | **Usual Status (PS+SS)

The real need is a holistic demographic mission

S. Irudaya Rajan

is Chair at the International Institute of Migration and Development (IIMAD), Kerala

U.S. Mishra

is Honorary Visiting Professor at the International Institute of Migration and Development (IIMAD), Kerala

The announcement on August 15, 2025, of a demographic mission, has become a topic of controversy in social and political circles. While the stated mission was limited to monitoring undocumented immigration from Bangladesh and its implied demographics in India's border regions, a holistic demographic mission seems to be the need as the nation is at the demographic crossroads. The most populous nation, with a large youth demography, undoubtedly becomes a matter of global envy and local pride. The demographics have never assumed significance in policy circles except for its relevance in population control. Demographic diversity is a blessing in disguise to sustain India's population well into the next century. Reading India's demographics may not essentially be limited to the country per se but has to be in relative terms with other global regions.

Need for a broader scope

A demography mission requires examining the kind of demographic transformation that has taken place over the last two decades. Demographic imaginations relating to the three demographic components of fertility, mortality and migration are quite limiting but have broader implications towards regional distribution of the age-sex composition of population and households. The agenda of a demography mission should not necessarily be limited to reading the future of demography but in recognition of emerging population features in terms of capabilities such as education, health and livelihood features alongside the evolving institutions in response to the migration transition. From a human capability standpoint, a demography mission needs to address the imbalanced infrastructure to generate human capabilities across regions. Consider the case of education and skill capabilities or a 'dream India' emerging as a skill capital in the world – the educational infrastructure remains skewed across regions and is not in keeping with middle class aspirations. This results in inequities with the affluent being able to achieve things as against the less affluent failing to do so.

> A true demography mission needs to examine India's various transformations

Issue of migration

While there have been major advances on the fertility and mortality fronts, migration seems to be a major population balancer across regions. Hence, policies need to be in place to make the choice of migration equal for everyone. But then the political discourse on migration is quite adverse within India. Despite the constitutional guarantee of a free mobility of individuals across all States, migrant identity is often threatened on various grounds. First, this is not a stated identity but rather a constructed one. Therefore, the protection of such an identity should ideally rest with the state rather than the individual.

Another complexity is the home and host attribute which needs to have an equal stake apart from the individual who is a migrant. The current political discourse on this subject is on disenfranchising migrants from their right to voting at home as they do not qualify to be the 'usual resident of the place'.

The same right could perhaps be bestowed on them by the host place, where they are equally disenfranchised. This raises a question on whether migrants face a constant battle of belonging. Resolving this puzzle that internal migrants confront should be the agenda of a demographic mission which should strive to restore migrant rights.

On longevity

The changing demography also poses other puzzles such as growing longevity and the provisioning of social security. There is sincere engagement on this issue to redefine ageing and economically productive years of life, where the young and the old equally remain productive as long as they remain healthy and active. The other implication of social security protection being the sole responsibility of the state needs a relook as well, with employers preparing employees to remain financially secure for their non-earning years of life. The entire scene of provisioning of social security needs a rethink with there being extended years of life.

Recognition of changing demographics is perhaps necessary in all possible planning, policy making, evaluation and monitoring. While there are plethora of indicators being made available to celebrate progress and achievements, one wonders whether they are able to account for changing demographics. When it comes to allocation and provisioning too, demographics should dictate the priorities. Unfortunately, the per capita hangover continues to prevail which ignores the composition of the population in the denominator. A demography mission's foundation lies in the demographic sensitisation of a whole lot of intellectual discourse on mainstreaming, marginalisation and inclusion. Demography is not a mere discipline to offer a retrospective and prospective dimension of population. It is the foundation to build the future of humanity with a suitable alteration in strategies in keeping with the evolving global order.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

The Peace Nobel

The decision to confer the Nobel Peace Prize for 2025 on María Corina Machado is both vindication and rebuke. Forced into exile for challenging Venezuela's authoritarian regime, she symbolises the moral courage of dissent that speaks truth to power. Her recognition underscores the global yearning for democracy in regions where elections are mere rituals of control.

Donald Trump's self-advocacy for the same honour comes as a paradox. His near-authoritarian style, threats to annex Canada and Greenland, and unilateral strikes on Iran, Yemen and Venezuela, all in the name of democracy, are far removed from concepts that go to shape the profile of a candidate for the prize. Ms. Machado's sacrifice and Mr. Trump's worldview are poles apart.

R. Narayanan,
Navi Mumbai

At a time when some circles were blatantly promoting the U.S. President, Donald Trump, for the same honour, the Nobel Committee's choice sends a clear message to the world — that peace is earned through sacrifice and steadfast commitment to justice, and not through power or publicity.

Gopalaswamy J.,
Chennai

The historian from Madras

It was moving to read about the illustrious but short life of C. Minatshi ('Tamil Nadu InFocus' page, October 10). As the first woman to receive a doctorate in history from the University of Madras in 1936, it was enlightening to know that she became "the greatest woman scholar that India has yet produced".

K. Chellappan,
Seattle, U.S.

Letters emailed to letters@thehindu.co.in must carry the postal address.

A bottle of Coldrif cough syrup, manufactured by the Tamil Nadu-based Sresan Pharmaceuticals. A.M. FARUQUI

Killer cough syrup

Twenty-four children have died in Madhya Pradesh and three others are in a critical condition after consuming an adulterated cough syrup. Lab tests show that the syrup contained a high concentration of diethylene glycol, an industrial solvent that is never used in medicine. **Bindu Shajan Perappadan** and **Mehul Malpani** report on the horror that highlights the dangers of India's weak regulatory system

The last words Afsana Khan heard from her son, Usaid, were the lines of a nursery rhyme – "*Anaar ka meetha daana* (The sweet seed of the pomegranate)." A drowsy and weak Usaid had tried to recite the rhyme as he lay in a hospital bed at New Health City Hospital in Nagpur, Maharashtra.

"I was trying to cheer him up. He had started going to nursery school just two months ago, so I asked him to recite the rhyme. He fell unconscious after saying these lines and never woke up," says Khan, sitting in her two-room house in Parasia town in Chhindwara district of Madhya Pradesh (M.P.), about 150 km away.

On September 13, 2025, Usaid died due to kidney failure, after three sessions of dialysis. He would have turned four on October 10, 2025.

Khan's younger son, 2-year-old Yamaan, is too young to understand the tragedy. As Khan speaks, Yamaan crawls under a chair and grabs an empty bottle of cough syrup. Khan quickly snatches it from him. "You stay away from this," she snaps. Hours later, a team from the State Health Department arrives to seize the bottle.

The 60-millilitre bottle of the cough syrup, Coldrif, has been linked to an unfolding tragedy in M.P. Since September, 24 children from the State have died. Most of them were from Chhindwara, while some were from the neighbouring Betul and Pandhurna districts. Three more children remain in a critical condition in Nagpur. The discovery of contamination in the cough syrup points to a larger, dangerous problem – India's poor regulatory system.

A dangerous prescription

All the 24 children had one thing in common – they developed a fever and cold, and received treatment in Parasia, a bustling town 30 km from the district headquarters.

Parasia is surrounded by the scenic Satpura mountain ranges and coal mines and is lined with rows of hospitals, clinics, and pharmacies. Among them is the hospital of Dr. Praveen Soni, a popular paediatrician in the area. According to many parents, Dr. Soni prescribed the Coldrif syrup, along with other medicines, for several sick children. Other doctors in town, including Dr. Amit Thakur and Dr. Aman Siddiqui, also allegedly prescribed the same syrup for some other children who reported similar symptoms.

The parents bought the prescribed medicines and went home. They began to worry when their children complained of a stomach ache after drinking the syrup. Soon, worry turned into panic: the children began vomiting and became drowsy. Their small bodies swelled up. Finally, unable to urinate, the children suffered severe kidney damage and died.

Suresh Pipri, a 40-year-old farmer from Parasia's Sethiya village, recalls the last few days of his 5-year-old daughter's life. "Rishika was diagnosed with fever on August 25 and received treatment from Dr. Thakur," says Pipri. "She was prescribed 5 ml of syrup twice a day. When we gave her the first dose, she began vomiting green fluid. She vomited multiple times through the night and complained of a stomach ache. The next day, she stopped talking and recognising anyone."

Pipri took her again to Dr. Thakur, who referred her to a private hospital in Chhindwara city. Despite three days of treatment at the hospital, Rishika's condition worsened and she was not able to urinate at all, he says.

> When we gave Rishika the first dose, she began vomiting green fluid. The next day, she stopped talking and stopped recognising anyone
>
> **SURESH PIPRI**
> Rishika's father

"On September 2, the doctor conducted a sonography and some other kidney-related tests. The results were not good. Her creatinine levels were extremely high. The doctor referred her to a private hospital in Nagpur," he says. There, Rishika underwent nine sessions of dialysis. When her condition worsened, she was put on a ventilator for 4-5 days. She died on September 16.

Pipri stares at Rishika's dance videos on his phone and her drawings. "We did everything we could, but we could not save her," he says.

A month of deaths and confusion

While most of the children in M.P. had been prescribed the syrup from mid-August onwards, the first death, of 3-year-old Divyansh, occurred on September 2 in a private hospital in Nagpur. More deaths of children were reported on September 4, 7, and 9, but authorities in Parasia and Chhindwara were unaware of the horror.

"Since the children had been referred to private hospitals and had died there, the local health department had no record of them," says Dr. Ankit Sahlam, Block Medical Officer (BMO), Parasia.

On September 16, after five children had died, health authorities in Nagpur wrote to the Chhindwara district hospital, informing them that children hailing from Parasia, or children who had been referred to hospitals from Parasia block, had died in Nagpur due to kidney failure.

"This is when we started tracing the cause," says Dr. Sahlam. "Our focus was on finding sources of infection from water, food, or animals. When we found that the children had been treated by local doctors first, we told those doctors to transfer all the children with similar symptoms to the Civil Hospital in Chhindwara."

The Chhindwara authorities failed to trace the cause of the problem. "On September 22, the doctors at the Government Medical College, Nagpur, told us that the kidney damage could have been caused by some medicine," says the Chief Medical and Health Officer of Chhindwara, Dr. Naresh Gonnade. The doctors also sent the prescriptions issued to the five children in Parasia.

"The Health Commissioner in Bhopal and other State authorities instructed us to launch a campaign to find the medicine that had caused the deaths," Dr. Gonnade says. The search led to two common cough syrups in the prescriptions – Coldrif and Nastro-DS. Dr. Gonnade says the Drug Inspector of Chhindwara was asked to start collecting samples of the two syrups from pharmacy stores as a precautionary measure.

Suresh Pipri, a 40-year-old farmer from Parasia's Sethiya village, recalls the last few days of his 5-year-old daughter Rishika's life. A.M. FARUQUI

On September 24, teams of the National Centre for Disease Control, the Central Drugs Standard Control Organisation (CDSCO), and the State surveillance unit of the National Health Mission in M.P. arrived in Chhindwara to investigate the deaths and collect samples.

According to a document of the M.P. Health Department, seen by *The Hindu*, the teams collected various samples to check for infections and diseases, including Leptospirosis, Chandipura, and Japanese Encephalitis. Tests ruled these out. Finally, the biopsy tests of the kidneys of four of the five children confirmed Acute Tubular Necrosis, an acute kidney injury.

Dr. Sahlam, the BMO of Parasia, says that it was only on September 26 that the authorities suspected Coldrif to be a potential cause. The government seized batches from pharmacies and instructed doctors not to prescribe the syrup.

On October 1, the then Controller of the Food and Drug Administration, Dinesh Kumar Maurya, wrote to the drug control authorities in Tamil Nadu and Himachal Pradesh, asking them to take action in the matter. While Coldrif had been manufactured by Sresan Pharmaceuticals in Kancheepuram in Tamil Nadu, Nastro-DS had been manufactured by Aqunova Pharma, in Himachal's Solan district. Nastro-DS has since been cleared following tests by the M.P. Food and Drugs Administration (MPFDA).

A high degree of toxicity

With the death toll climbing, the State Health Ministry and the Union Health Ministry sent samples of various medicines for testing.

The Tamil Nadu government ordered inspection and testing of samples as well. It found that one sample of the cough syrup tested showed diethylene glycol (DEG) contamination at a level of 48.6% weight/volume. The government issued a 'stop production' order to Sresan Pharma on October 3 and the CDSCO recommended that the company's manufacturing license be cancelled.

On October 4, the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare said, "Nineteen medicine samples which had been consumed by children were collected from private practitioners and nearby retail stores... Out of the initial 10 samples analysed in the first batch, nine met quality standards. However, one of them, viz. cough syrup Coldrif, contained DEG beyond permissible limits.''

DEG is a toxic chemical substance typically used in antifreeze solutions for air-conditioners, fridges, and freezers, and as a solvent for products, including cosmetics, at very low concentrations.

According to the CDSCO, DEG replaces pharmaceutical-grade solvents, such as propylene glycol and glycerin, required for safe human consumption. "DEG is cheaper and has a colourless, syrupy consistency and sweet taste like glycerin. It is used by manufacturers to cut costs,'' says a senior official at CDSCO.

Upon further investigation, the CDSCO identified three products which had been contaminated – Coldrif from Sresan Pharma (Tamil Nadu) showing 48.6% DEG; Respifresh TR from Rednex Pharma (Gujarat) showing 1.342% DEG; and ReLife from Shape Pharma (Gujarat) showing 0.616% of DEG.

In its official statement, the Tamil Nadu Drugs Control Department said the inspection team found several non-compliances at Sresan Pharma. They noticed 39 critical observations and 325 major observations. "It was found that the alleged batch was manufactured using non-pharmacopoeial grade Propylene Glycol as an excipient, which might have been contaminated with DEG and Ethylene Glycol (EG), which are known nephrotoxic and poisonous substances," it said.

In India, while the Drugs and Cosmetics Act, 1940, and the associated Drugs and Cosmetics Rules, 1945, do not explicitly list DEG by name, they prohibit the use of any substance considered "adulterated" or "substandard".

> While CDSCO approves new drugs, clinical trials, and imports, the States handle the licenses for manufacturing, sale, and distribution at the State level
>
> **RAJEEV SINGH RAGHUVANSHI**
> Head of Central Drugs Standard Control Organisation (CDSCO)

Who is responsible?

Contaminated, Indian-made cough syrup is a recurring health hazard. In 1986, at least 14 patients, including a child, died of acute renal failure after being administered glycerol syrup laced with DEG at Mumbai's J.J. Hospital. In 2022, a number of countries reported that over-the-counter cough syrups for children had been contaminated with DEG and EG. These resulted in the deaths of more than 300 children in Gambia, Indonesia, and Uzbekistan. A lab analysis in Gambia revealed that the product samples contained unacceptable amounts of DEG and EG and that the bottles of syrup had been imported from India. Yet, the problem persists.

Explaining how drugs are licensed in India, Dr. Rajeev Singh Raghuvanshi, head of CDSCO, told *The Hindu* that health is a State subject. "This means that while CDSCO approves new drugs, clinical trials, and imports, the States handle the licenses for manufacturing, sale, and distribution at the State level," he said.

Since the findings, the Tamil Nadu Health Department has suspended two senior drug inspectors in Kancheepuram for failing to carry out quality checks and for failing to monitor the drugs manufactured by Sresan Pharma over the last two years. On October 10, Tamil Nadu Health Minister Ma. Subramanian told reporters that while the State had acted against its officials, Central drug inspectors, who are expected to conduct inspections of drug manufacturing facilities across India once every three years, have not done this for six years in Tamil Nadu.

Drugs are licensed in India through a process overseen by the CDSCO and the State Drug Standard Control Organisations (SDSCO), following the guidelines of the Drugs and Cosmetics Act. The process requires making applications, submitting documents, and carrying out inspections to ensure that the drugs are safe, effective, and manufactured under strict quality standards.

An official of the Union Health Ministry says that in the case of Coldrif, the company, Sresan Pharma, got its license from the State government in 2011; this was renewed in 2016. "The company wasn't in our radar," the official says.

A senior FDA official in Bhopal in M.P. says if a drug has been approved by the State in which it is manufactured, the maker does not need separate approval to sell it in another State. "No approval was granted to this syrup by the MPFDA," he says. "But we were responsible for testing random samples of the concerned batch, SR-13 of Coldrif, which we did not do, apart from not having proper sale and distribution records. Three FDA officials have been suspended for negligence."

The aftermath

On October 9, an M.P. Special Investigative Team arrested G. Ranganathan, proprietor of Sresan Pharma, in Chennai. They sealed his manufacturing facility located along the Chennai-Bengaluru highway.

The police also filed a criminal case at Parasia police station against Dr. Soni. They booked him and the directors of Sresan Pharma under Sections 105 (culpable homicide not amounting to murder) and 276 (adulteration of drugs) of the Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita, 2023, as well as Section 27(A) of the Drugs and Cosmetics Act, 1940, which prescribes penalties for the manufacture, sale, stock, or distribution of substandard and illegal cosmetics.

The Indian Medical Association objected to Dr. Soni's arrest. Doctors say it is difficult to tell whether a medicine is contaminated simply by looking at it. Many medicines that are contaminated can look, smell, or taste like non-contaminated products. "This is why rigorous and continuous safety checks on medical products to detect and destroy contaminated medicines, whenever possible, is essential,'' says Dr. Anil Bansal, member of the Delhi Medical Association.

The M.P. government is now probing how a large batch of contaminated cough syrup landed in Parasia. "Over 600 bottles of contaminated cough syrup were dispatched from Jabalpur to Chhindwara, with a large batch sent to Parasia,'' says a source in the Union Health Ministry. The Chhindwara Additional Collector, Dhirendra Singh, says 543 bottles have been seized so far.

Dr. Gonnade says at least 1,000 ASHA workers, 3,000 Auxiliary Nurse Midwives, and several Anganwadi and health workers have been conducting door-to-door surveys since. "They are all hunting for those bottles," he says.

The CDSCO has asked all the State governments to submit a list of cough syrup manufacturers in their States and has initiated a joint audit of these companies. It has informed the World Health Organization that it has identified and recalled three contaminated cough syrups – Coldrif, Respifresh TR, and ReLife – and halted their production. It has also clarified that none of these products were exported.

In Dighavani village, about 15 km from Parasia, Prabhu Dayal and Kunti Yaduvanshi sit in darkness. Their younger son, Vikas, caught a fever on September 19 and was prescribed Coldrif by Dr. Soni. "By the time we reached Nagpur on September 22, the doctors said they were suspicious of the syrup and were testing it. Did he [Dr. Soni] not know that this syrup had already killed children? What was the government doing," asks Dayal. All they are left with is a passport-sized photo of Vikas; he died on September 27.

With inputs from Serena Josephine M. in Tamil Nadu

From Page One

India's Kabul mission to be upgraded to embassy

Mr. Jaishankar noted that India and Afghanistan share a "common commitment towards growth and prosperity" but cautioned that "these are endangered by the shared threat of cross-border terrorism that both our nations face." He did not name Pakistan but urged Mr. Muttaqi to "coordinate efforts" to counter the threat.

The meeting took place hours after an explosion in Kabul reportedly killed Tehreek-e-Taliban Pakistan (TTP) leader Mufti Noor Wali Mehsud, a claim later denied by TTP sources.

Mr. Jaishankar thanked Kabul for condemning the terror attack in Pahalgam on April 22, saying, "We appreciate your sensitivity towards India's security concerns." He also reiterated India's commitment to facilitating travel for Afghan nationals through a new visa module introduced in April, with more medical, business, and student visas being issued. A joint statement issued after the meeting said that scholarships from the Indian Council for Cultural Relations (ICCR) and other organisations are "under active consideration" to enable more Afghan students to study in India.

The joint statement welcomed starting of the India-Afghanistan Air Freight Corridor, which is expected to "streamline connectivity and boost bilateral trade".

It further said that both sides "agreed to cooperate on hydroelectric projects with a view to addressing Afghanistan's energy needs and support its agricultural development."

Mr. Jaishankar also announced six new health projects for Afghanistan, with details to be shared soon. India will gift 20 ambulances to Afghanistan as a "symbolic step" and provide MRI and CT scan machines to hospitals. He further confirmed that India will continue supplying vaccines, cancer medicines, and relief material to earthquake-affected areas in eastern Afghanistan, adding, "We would like to contribute to the reconstruction of residences in the affected areas."

2 Indians face U.S. sanctions for aiding Iran with oil trade

Press Trust of India
WASHINGTON

The U.S. has sanctioned more than 50 entities, individuals and vessels for allegedly facilitating Iranian energy sales, according to an official statement.

Two Indian nationals are the among those facing the sanctions, announced by the U.S. Treasury Department's Office of Foreign Assets Control (OFAC) on Thursday.

"These actors have collectively enabled the export of billions of dollars' worth of petroleum and petroleum products, providing critical revenue to the Iranian regime and its support for terrorist groups that threaten the United States," the department said in a press release.

One of the Indian nationals sanctioned is Varun Pula, whose vessel has transported nearly four million barrels of Iranian LPG to China since July 2024, according to the U.S. statement.

The other is Soniya Shrestha, whose Comoros-flagged vessel, NEPTA, has transported Iranian-origin LPG to Pakistan since January 2025.

Taliban will not allow terrorists to use Afghan territory, says Muttaqi

Foreign Minister of the Taliban administration in Afghanistan rules out joint operation with India against terrorists; he calls for stronger trade ties through Wagah border and Chabahar port; terms criticism on gender rights 'international propaganda'

Kallol Bhattacherjee
NEW DELHI

The Taliban will not allow Afghan territory to be used against any country, said Amir Khan Muttaqi, Foreign Minister of the Taliban administration in Afghanistan.

Mr. Muttaqi, the first high-level Taliban leader to be hosted by India, held a rare media interaction in the Embassy of Afghanistan where he pitched for stronger bilateral trade ties through the Wagah border crossing between India and Pakistan.

"Today, we held a detailed discussion on our security concerns. The Islamic Emirate of Afghanistan has proved in the past four years that the territory of Afghanistan will not be used against others. Similarly, narcotics is dangerous in terms of its use as well as trafficking, and both sides agreed to carry out joint efforts to eradicate this problem," said Mr. Muttaqi in his opening remarks.

He emphasised that under the rule of the Taliban, terror groups from Pakistan, such as the Lashkar-e-Taiba, that were known to use Afghan territory to train their cadre, have been pushed out.

Reaching out: Amir Khan Muttaqi said that the Taliban would work with India to act firmly against trafficking of narcotics. ANI

In response to a question on India and Afghanistan carrying out joint operations to rid Afghanistan of terror groups, Mr. Muttaqi said, "Joint operations would have been necessary if terrorists were found operating in Afghanistan. We carried out extensive operations against terrorists inside Afghanistan over the past four years. During this period, no threat has emanated from the territory of Afghanistan targeting any country."

Mr. Muttaqi called for greater trade ties with India and said attempts should be made to strengthen trade through Pakistani territory, especially through the Wagah border, as trade through Wagah is economically viable for Afghans.

"India and Pakistan should not shut Wagah as it provides a cheap route to us," said Mr. Muttaqi.

He also said, "There are some obstacles on [the Iranian port] Chabahar because of U.S. sanctions. But these obstacles should be removed. In the past one year, India-Afghanistan trade has crossed $1 billion, so you can imagine how much trade we can do if these obstacles are dealt with."

He said that the Taliban would not hand over the Bagram airbase to the U.S. as was being demanded by U.S. President Donald Trump and said, "history is witness" that the people of Afghanistan do not appreciate the presence of foreign troops on their soil.

"Afghanistan has attained independence after four decades and everyone should support our free existence," said Mr. Muttaqi in the press interaction.

Women scribes excluded

The interaction drew sharp criticism online for being "all male" and for excluding women reporters. Several women journalists who reached the Afghan embassy were seen sitting outside the premises and were not allowed to enter.

"The condition of women under the Taliban has improved just like the overall law and order situation. If the women would have disapproved of our rules, they would have come out in protest," said Mr. Muttaqi, answering a question while describing criticism of the Taliban on gender issues as "international propaganda".

There were dramatic moments before the press conference when officials accompanying Mr. Muttaqi were challenged by representatives of the Islamic Republic of Afghanistan who continue to run the affairs of the Afghan embassy in Delhi.

The embassy officials objected when Mr. Muttaqi's companions removed the flag of the Islamic Republic of Afghanistan that was overthrown by Taliban in August 2021.

"This is not a Taliban embassy yet and we will not allow your flag here," said one of the staff members as he prevented the use of a large black-white flag of the Islamic Emirate of Afghanistan. However, the Taliban team came ready with a small table-top flag that Mr. Muttaqi placed before him while addressing the media.

Gaza ceasefire holds as Israeli forces pull back

The ceasefire marks a key step toward ending a ruinous two-year war that has killed tens of thousands of Palestinians, reduced much of Gaza to rubble, destabilised West Asia, and left dozens of hostages, living and dead, in the territory.

Israeli Brig. General Effie Defrin, a military spokesman, said that troops had completed their withdrawal to the deployment lines by Friday afternoon, a few hours after the ceasefire officially went into effect.

Earlier, an Israeli security official, speaking on condition of anonymity, said the military would control around 50% of Gaza in their new positions.

In Israel's offensive, more than 67,000 Palestinians have been killed in Gaza and nearly 1,70,000 wounded, according to Gaza's Health Ministry. The hostage and prisoner releases are expected to begin on Monday, two Egyptian officials briefed on the talks and a Hamas official said, though another official said they could occur as early as Sunday night.

All living hostages are expected to be released at the same time, followed by the bodies of the deceased, which could take more time.

Five border crossings are expected to reopen, including the Rafah crossing between Gaza and Egypt, the Egyptian and Hamas officials said. That will allow aid to flow into the territory, parts of which are experiencing famine.

Supreme Court hints at revisiting firecracker ban in NCR, may allow green fireworks this Deepavali

Aaratrika Bhaumik
NEW DELHI

The Supreme Court on Friday indicated that it may revisit its April 3 order imposing a year-long ban on the manufacture, storage, sale, and use of firecrackers in Delhi-National Capital Region (NCR), while reserving its verdict on pleas seeking permission to allow their production and sale in the region.

A Bench of Chief Justice of India B.R. Gavai and Justice K. Vinod Chandran said it would examine the possibility of allowing the sale and use of green firecrackers certified by the National Environmental Engineering Research Institute (NEERI) and the Petroleum and Explosives Safety Organisation (PESO) during Deepavali.

"We will permit them on a trial basis during Deepavali. We will revisit the *Arjun Gopal* judgment if necessary, and whatever has been held in it, along with any modifications suggested by you and the *amicus curiae*. We will try to balance it out," the Chief Justice told Solicitor-General Tushar Mehta, who appeared for the Centre.

In its 2018 ruling in *Arjun Gopal v. Union of India*, the top court had declined to impose a complete ban on firecrackers but permitted the manufacture and sale of only "green" variants with reduced emissions and permissible noise levels. It had also prohibited online sales and directed that such crackers be sold only through licensed traders.

During Friday's hearing,

Green firecrackers will allowed on a trial basis during this Deepavali, said CJI Gavai.

Chief Justice Gavai asked advocate Uttara Babbar, who was appointed *amicus curiae*, whether there had been any significant change in air quality since the 2018 ruling. "Has the Air Quality Index (AQI) worsened? Was it much lower in 2018 than in 2024?" he asked.

Ms. Babbar referred to a report by the Commission for Air Quality Management (CAQM), noting that there was no conclusive data to show deterioration, but that the report had recorded a dip in post-Diwali pollution levels when bans were in place. "In 2021, pre-Diwali PM2.5 was 163 and post-Diwali it rose to 354 – a 117% increase. This percentage came down to 61% in 2024," she said.

The Solicitor-General, however, countered that there was no data establishing firecrackers as a primary cause of pollution spikes. "Except during the COVID-19 period, the AQI has remained more or less the same. There is nothing on record to show the exact contribution of firecrackers," he submitted.

Mr. Mehta also presented a detailed proposal from the Centre seeking to lift the blanket ban in Delhi-NCR and allow the sale of NEERI-approved green firecrackers under strict regulation. The proposal suggested that only licensed traders be permitted to sell crackers, while e-commerce platforms like Flipkart and Amazon be barred from processing online orders. It also proposed banning "joined" or chain-linked firecrackers.

The Centre proposed fixed time slots for bursting firecrackers, between 8 p.m. and 10 p.m. on Deepavali and other major festivals. On Christmas and New Year's Eve, fireworks would be allowed from 11.55 p.m. to 12.30 a.m. For Gurpurab, they could be used for one hour each in the morning and evening. It further suggested permitting green firecrackers for weddings and other private celebrations.

Army chiefs of 33 nations to meet in Delhi on peace operations

Saurabh Trivedi
NEW DELHI

Positioning itself at the centre of the global peacekeeping discourse, India will convene the United Nations Troop Contributing Countries' (UNTCC) Chiefs Conclave in New Delhi next week.

The gathering will see participation from Army chiefs of more than 33 nations, primarily from the Global South and Europe, in a bid to enhance collective approaches to peace operations between October 14 to 16 at Manekshaw Centre in New Delhi.

China, Pak. not invited

According to senior Army officials, confirmations have been received from all 33 countries, with most delegates representing nations from the Global South, including India's immediate neighbours Bangladesh, Sri Lanka, Nepal, and Bhutan. Pakistan and China are not invited.

Highlighting India's evolving role in UN peacekeeping operations, a senior Army official said: "India's role in UN peacekeeping has evolved from a passive observer to an active stabiliser in conflict zones worldwide. There is no doubt that, given changing geopolitics and its impact on international relations, the UN's collective endeavour to maintain peace will continue to face challenges."

Describing the event, the official added, "This conclave is a unique platform for UN Troop Contributing Countries to foster dialogue, cooperation, and mutual understanding."

Currently, about 5,500 Indian men and women are deployed across nine countries as part of UN peacekeeping missions.

The official further noted that the conclave seeks to serve as a forum for sharing best practices, fostering common understanding, and building a collaborative approach.

'Cong. team stopped from visiting kin of lynched man'

Mayank Kumar
LUCKNOW

The Congress on Friday alleged that a delegation of the party going to meet and provide financial assistance to the family of Hariom Valmiki, a Dalit man lynched in Rae Bareli, was stopped by the local administration in Fatehpur.

The party vowed to stand behind the family and described authorities' action as dictatorship.

"In Raebareli, Dalit man Hariom Valmiki was brutally beaten to death by goons nurtured under the protection of the government... The government hates Dalits so much and wants to suppress any voices coming out in their support. It is clear that sole objective of today's action is to suppress the voice of Dalits, Backward Classes and the poor by creating an atmosphere of fear," said Ajay Rai, president of the Uttar Pradesh Congress.

Chandigarh police constitute SIT to probe death of Haryana IPS officer

The Hindu Bureau
CHANDIGARH

The Chandigarh Police on Friday constituted a time-bound Special Investigation Team (SIT) to probe the death of senior Haryana Police officer Y. Puran Kumar, citing the gravity and sensitivity of the allegations. The six-member SIT, as per an order issued by the Director General of Police, Chandigarh, will conduct a "prompt, impartial and thorough investigation." It will be headed by Inspector General of Police Pushpendra Kumar.

The National Commission for Scheduled Castes has issued a notice to the Chief Secretary and Director General of Police of the Union Territory, seeking a detailed report on the allegations of caste discrimination levelled by the late officer in a note recovered from his residence. The Commission has directed that the report be submitted within seven days and warned that it may invoke its constitutional powers akin to civil courts if compliance is not met.

Digging deep: Police during a probe at the house of Y. Puran Kumar, who allegedly died by suicide at his official residence. PTI

On Thursday, the Chandigarh Police registered an FIR in the case. Subsequently, Kumar's wife, Amneet P. Kumar, an IAS officer, alleged serious irregularities in the document. Ms. Amneet, who is Commissioner and Secretary in the Haryana government, wrote to the Senior Superintendent of Police (SSP), Chandigarh, on Friday, pointing out that the FIR copy provided to her contained incomplete information and failed to meet the legal requirements for a fair and transparent investigation.

She said that the names of accused persons, including Haryana Director General of Police Shatrujeet Kapur and Rohtak Superintendent of Police Narendra Bijarniya – whom she accused of harassing and maligning the deceased – had not been properly entered in the FIR, despite being cited in the original complaint.

Ms. Amneet has also said that the "final note" recovered from the pocket of the deceased had not yet been provided to her.

Parties call for action

Intensifying its attack on the BJP over the death of Mr. Kumar, the Congress said the alleged caste-based harassment of the IPS officer reflected the deepening caste discrimination under the BJP-led government. Communist Party of India general secretary D. Raja, in an X post, said, "It is appalling that even after 72 hours of his tragic death, no action has been taken against those named in his note".

Law Minister Arjun Ram Meghwal, who is from the Dalit community, hit back at the Congress saying it was trying to spread misinformation. He said that under the leadership of Prime Minister Narendra Modi many initiatives have been undertaken for the welfare of Dalits.

(Those in distress may seek counselling at the helpline MANAS at 14416)

4-day training for first phase of Census 2027 pre-test starts in Delhi

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

A four-day training to conduct the pre-test exercise for the first phase of the Population Census 2027 has started, the Registrar General and Census Commissioner (RG & CCI) said on Friday.

"A four-day intensive training of Lead Trainers for the Pre-Test Exercise of Phase I – Houselisting & Housing Census commenced today at Janganana Bhawan, New Delhi," the RGI posted on X.

Inaugurating the session, RG & CCI Mritunjay Kumar Narayan welcomed participants from across States and highlighted the pivotal role of lead trainers as torch-bearers in cascading training nationwide and also emphasised on the smooth conduct of the first-ever digital Census in the country, the post said.

A pre-test is required to test the efficacy of the exercise that will be held in two phases – Houselisting and Housing Schedule, and Population Enumeration from April 1, 2026, to February 28, 2027. This will be the first digital Census and the first to enumerate caste in independent India. The test will evaluate the proposed questions, data collection methodologies, training effectiveness, logistics, printing processes, data quality assessment, identifying potential field issues among others.

This is the first Census since 2011, as the exercise that was scheduled in 2021 was delayed due to the COVID-19 pandemic. It will now be completed in 2027.

The pre-test for the planned 2021 Census took place in 2019, covering more than 26 lakh people in 76 districts of 36 States and Union Territories. Around 6,000 enumerators and 1,100 supervisors from State governments were engaged in 2019.

Lalu to take final call on candidates for poll: RJD

State and parliamentary committee members seek representation for all sections, with special focus on EBCs, a key vote bank; they also discuss seat allocation among INDIA bloc partners

Amit Bhelari
PATNA

The Rashtriya Janata Dal (RJD) on Friday authorised party supremo Lalu Prasad to take the final decision on selection of candidates for the coming Bihar Assembly election.

The election to the 243-member Assembly will be held in two phases on November 6 and 11.

The decision was taken at the RJD's State and central parliamentary committee meeting held at the official residence of former Chief Minister Rabri Devi. The meeting was chaired by Mr. Prasad and his son Tejashwi Yadav, who is also the Leader of the Opposition in the Assembly.

The meeting also discussed seat distribution among the constituents of the INDIA bloc. After the meeting, RJD spokesperson Shakti Singh Yadav said: "Lalu Prasad *ji* will take the final decision on the distribution of ticket."

All the members of the State and parliamentary committees were present. They included secretary-general Abdul Bari Siddiqui, RJD State unit president Manganilal Mandal, former Assembly Speaker Awadh Bihari Choudhary, and MLA Bhai Birendra.

Ticket-seekers demonstrating outside RJD chief Lalu Prasad's residence in Patna on Friday. The election to the 243-member Bihar Assembly will be held in two phases on November 6 and 11. PTI

"Whatever decision Lalu *ji* takes, it will be accepted by all RJD leaders in the party," Mr. Birendra said.

Party sources said that at the meeting, everyone requested Mr. Prasad to ensure that the RJD contested the maximum number of seats. The State and parliamentary committee members also urged Mr. Prasad to ensure that all sections of people were covered in the ticket distribution.

Special focus should be given to the Extremely Backward Classes (EBCs), they said.

The EBCs constitute 36% of the total population. Considered a strong vote bank of Chief Minister and JD(U) leader Nitish Kumar, the grouping is said to have kept him in power for the past 20 years.

Tejashwi as CM face

Addressing the members, Mr. Prasad said that he would look into the suggestions of the members and asked everyone to work hard so that the INDIA bloc can form the government. He said everyone should have only "one aim" - to make Tejashwi Yadav the next Chief Minister of Bihar so that he can serve the people.

As per party sources, the RJD is set to field candidates on 130 to 140 seats. The remaining seats will be distributed among the allies.

At present, intense bargaining for seats is under way in the INDIA bloc.

Mr. Yadav, who heads the Coordination Committee of the INDIA bloc, is looking at every possible angle to accommodate all the partners, be it the Congress, the Vikashasheel Insaan Party led by Mukesh Sahni, who is demanding at least 30 seats, and the three Left parties – the Communist Party of India (CPI), Communist Party of India (Marxist), and the Communist Party of India (Marxist-Leninist) (Liberation).

Mr. Yadav also needs to accommodate the Jharkhand Mukti Morcha as well as the Pashupati Kumar Paras-led Rashtriya Lok Janshakti Party, which broke away from the NDA earlier.

No appeals filed to add names to final Bihar voters' list: EC

Sreeparna Chakrabarty
NEW DELHI

Poll body notifies first phase of Bihar Assembly poll on November 6

The Election Commission kick-started the Bihar Assembly election process on Friday by issuing a notification for Phase 1 polling in 121 constituencies on November 6. It said that it had not yet received any appeals for the addition or deletion of names to the State's final electoral rolls, published after the recent special intensive revision (SIR).

The process of filing nominations for candidates in the constituencies going to the polls in the first phase began on Friday, with the last date for withdrawal of nominations set for October 20.

While names can be added to the voter lists till the last date of filing nominations, the EC will only process applications for new registrations (Form 6) received up to 10 days before the last date for filing nominations, which is now over for the first phase. Any application received after this cut-off date will be processed only after the election is over.

'No appeals yet'

In a post on X, the Chief Electoral Officer of Bihar said that as of October 9, during the recent SIR process, no appeals had been received by District Magistrates in any of the 243 Assembly constituencies regarding the addition or deletion of names to the final electoral rolls after the SIR process.

While hearing a bunch of petitions challenging the Bihar SIR on Thursday, the Supreme Court had asked the Bihar State Legal Service Authority to help those whose names have not made it to the list to file appeals with the Election Commission.

The EC has said that 3.66 ineligible electors' names were removed from the draft list, while 21.53 lakh eligible electors were added to it using Form 6, taking the total number of voters to 7.42 crore.

The EC has issued a list of 12 alternative documents which can be furnished as proof for voting in the polls in case of unavailability of EPIC cards.

In a statement, the poll body reiterated that to encourage participation of *purdanasheen* (women in burqas or purdah), "special arrangements" will be made at polling stations for their "dignified identification" in the presence of women polling officers or attendants, while ensuring their privacy.

INBRIEF

Leaders from JD(U), LJP(RV) join RJD ahead of elections

Ahead of the coming Bihar Assembly election, prominent faces of ruling parties on Friday joined the Opposition Rashtriya Janata Dal (RJD) in the presence of party leader Tejashwi Yadav. Former MP Santosh Kushwaha and former MLA Rahul Sharma of Janata Dal (United), former candidate from Vaishali Assembly of Lok Janshakti Party (Ram Vilas) Ajay Kushwaha and JD(U) MP Girdhari Yadav's son Chanakya Prakash Ranjan joined the RJD. Of the four, two leaders belong to the Kushwaha community, one to the Yadav community, whereas Mr. Sharma is a Bhumihar who had served as an MLA from the Ghosi Assembly seat. Welcoming them into the party, Mr. Yadav said that the joining of the four leaders would strengthen the RJD.

NC names three candidates for RS polls; talks on for one seat

The National Conference (NC) on Friday announced the names of three candidates for the coming Rajya Sabha elections in Jammu & Kashmir. The party has dropped the name of Farooq Abdullah due to "health reasons". It has also kept one candidate undecided as talks with its coalition partner Congress are on. "We have finalised the three candidates, Choudhary Muhammad Ramzan, Shammi Oberoi and Sajad Kichloo, for the Rajya Sabha seats. Talks are on for the fourth seat," said Nasir Aslam Wani, senior NC leader. Two seats fell vacant in the J&K Assembly after Chief Minister Omar Abdullah vacated from the Budgam seat and retained the Ganderbal seat after the election, and the death of Nagrota MLA Devender Singh Rana last year.

Congress slams Modi over Trump's remarks

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

The Congress on Friday launched a sharp attack on the Narendra Modi government over U.S. President Donald Trump's repeated claim that he stopped "Operation Sindoor" using "trade and tariffs".

Congress leader Jairam Ramesh said that President Trump had now "reached the half-century mark" with the claim. He said the U.S. President made the latest claim during a meeting with Finnish President Alexander Stubb on Thursday, where Mr. Trump again asserted that he had stopped the India-Pakistan conflict using "trade and tariffs as his *brahmastra*".

"In this, President Trump has been consistent, insistent, and persistent. And it won't be long before he scores a century," Mr. Ramesh said. He also shared a video clip of President Trump's repeated assertion.

India-China ties are now defined by competitive coexistence: ex-diplomat

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

The violence between Indian and Chinese troops in the Galwan Valley in 2020 was not only a clash of soldiers on a remote frontier, but also marked the shattering of a carefully constructed edifice of trust, former Foreign Secretary Nirupama Menon Rao said here on Friday.

She was delivering the opening remarks at a panel discussion on the book *China: Indian Perspectives on China's Politics, Economy, and Foreign Relations,* released by The Hindu Group.

"[The 2020 clash] told us that peace cannot rest on habit alone. It must be renewed by political will, and since then both sides have talked, but the old equilibrium has vanished. The relationship today is defined by what I will call as competitive coexistence, a state of armed peace, engagement shadowed by mistrust, cooperation constrained by rivalry," Ms. Rao said at the event organised at the Takshashila Institution

Former Foreign Secretary Nirupama Menon Rao (centre) with Pranay Kotasthane and Shobhankita Reddy during a discussion on a book on China, in Bengaluru on Friday. K. MURALI KUMAR

She said the trust between India and China had ebbed to its lowest point in decades. "The border remains tense and suspicions run deep, but history shows that even adversarial neighbours can co-exist if they establish the rules of engagement. That was the purpose of the 1993 Agreement on Peace and Tranquillity between India and China," she said. Ms. Rao also spoke about how the world order has shifted during U.S. President Donald Trump's second term, and his recent remarks on India's relationship with China.

"Today, as India and China cautiously resume their negotiation processes, the world itself has shifted. The return of Donald Trump to the White House, more volatile and transactional, has unsettled many of the assumptions that once underpinned India's foreign policy," she said.

She noted that Washington, once viewed as an indispensable power front in India's eyes, now feels less predictable due to U.S. tariffs, transactions, and the conditions placed on defence cooperation. "Each of these is a reminder that even the closest alliance rests on shifting ground. And who can forget President Trump's satirical aside after the Tianjin summit of the Shanghai Cooperation Organisation when he spoke on 'deepest, darkest China'," she said.

In the panel discussion that followed, three contributors to the book – Pranay Kotasthane, Manoj Kewalramani, and Shobhankita Reddy, all from the Takshashila Institution – spoke on a wide range of topics, including China's advancement in the field of technology, the Communist Party of China, and Chinese President Xi Jinping's succession plan.

There is a difference between refugees and infiltrators: Shah

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

Union Home Minister Amit Shah on Friday, while defending the Election Commission's special intensive revision (SIR) of electoral rolls in Bihar, said that in many regions of the country up to 30% "infiltrators" had been caught.

"Tribal population has declined significantly in Jharkhand due to infiltration from Bangladesh. Congress is in denial mode on SIR. It has been happening since 1951. It is the responsibility of EC to sanitise the voter rolls. The Congress protests because they fear losing a vote bank. Supreme Court is monitoring the SIR progress in Bihar. In several regions, 30%, 20%, 15%, 11% infiltrators have been caught. It is the job and the duty of the EC to ask if the voter is an Indian or not," he said at an event by *Dainik Jagran*.

Amit Shah

Mr. Shah shared the contours of the demographic mission announced by Prime Minister Narendra Modi on August 15. "This mission will also study illegal migration, its impact on religious and social life, the unusual settlement patterns arising due to changes in population, and its effect on border management," he said.

He said checking infiltration was not the responsibility of the Union government alone. He said according to the 2011 Census, the decadal growth of Muslim population in Assam was 29%, which was not possible without infiltration. "In West Bengal, the decadal growth of Muslim population has crossed 40%, and in some districts, it is 70%. Border Security Force is there to check infiltration. However, the topography is such that there are several gaps along the border... nobody can stop infiltration from these points. I want to ask Trinamool Congress government, where do they go first after illegally entering the country? Who makes their Aadhaar? It is the District Collectors. Centre cannot alone stop infiltration," he said.

He said infiltration was encouraged by political parties as they saw a vote bank in it. "Why is there no infiltration from Gujarat and Rajasthan? The BSF is deployed there as well."

He said there was a difference between refugees and infiltrators. "Refugees are the ones who come to India fearing religious persecution. Infiltrators are those who come here due to economic reasons and enter illegally. This [country] is not a *dharamshala* (guest house). Those who came here during Partition are welcome. The Hindus of Pakistan, Bangladesh and Afghanistan have the same rights in India as I have," he said.

SC gives Centre four weeks to respond to pleas for restoration of J&K Statehood

Aaratrika Bhaumik
NEW DELHI

Urging the Supreme Court to weigh the constitutional implications for India's federal structure, petitioners on Friday pressed the Union Government to honour its "solemn promise" of restoring Jammu and Kashmir's Statehood.

A Bench of Chief Justice of India B.R. Gavai and Justice K. Vinod Chandran asked Solicitor-General Tushar Mehta, appearing for the Union Government, to respond to the submissions within four weeks, even as it acknowledged that "various considerations" had to be factored in while making such a decision, including the April 22 Pahalgam terror attack.

The Bench was hearing an application seeking the restoration of Statehood within a specified time frame, preferably two months. The petitioners, an academic and a social activist, contended that the continued Union Territory status "violates the idea of federalism", an essential feature of the Constitution's basic structure. They further pointed out that the smooth conduct of both the Assembly and Lok Sabha elections showed there were no longer any security concerns hindering the restoration of Statehood.

Institutional promise

Senior advocate Menaka Guruswamy, appearing for MLA Irfan Hafiz Lone, argued that the assurance of restoring Statehood was not a mere political declaration but an "institutional promise" made by the Centre before a constitutional court. She urged the court to consider the "larger question" of what it would signify for Indian federalism if a State could be reduced to a Union Territory "in this fashion".

Senior advocate Gopal Sankaranarayanan, appearing for petitioners Zahoor Ahmad Bhat and Khurshaid Ahmad Malik, read from the Supreme Court's December 2023 judgment on the abrogation of Article 370 to emphasise that the court had refrained from deciding the Statehood issue only because the Solicitor-General had assured it would be restored after elections.

ओएनजीसी ONGC ONGC

BDA/DAHEJ/EOI-1/2025-26 ONGC, Vadodara

EXPRESSION OF INTEREST (EOI)

Notice Inviting Expression of Interest (EOI) For Design, Supply, Installation, Testing and Commissioning of Online Wireless Vibration Monitoring System For Non - Cryogenic Pumps and Motors at C2C3 Dahej Plant, ONGC Ltd, Gujarat.
Submission of EOI: Within 21 days from the date of publication of this notice. **EOI Meeting:** To be intimated separately to interested parties. **Venue:** Dahej Plant, ONGC, Gujarat.
For any queries please contact: Mr. Rakesh Sethi GM (I), Dahej Plant, ONGC, Gujarat Email: sethi_rakesh@ongc.co.in, Phone: +91-7710091872
For Downloading EOI Documents please Logon to http://tenders.ongc.co.in

ओएनजीसी ONGC ONGC

BDA/DAHEJ/EOI-2/2025-26 ONGC, Vadodara

EXPRESSION OF INTEREST (EOI)

ONGC invites Expression of Interest (EOI) from reputed and experienced consultancy firms for providing professional services related to the Denotification of ONGC's Dahej Plant from Dahej SEZ-02 (SEZ Exit). **Brief Description:** Exploration of Source of Supply & Qualification Framework for Engagement of Consultancy Services for Denotification of ONGC's Dahej Plant from Dahej SEZ-02 (SEZ Exit). **Pre-Submission Meeting:** 7 days from publication of notification. **Last Date for Submission of EOI response:** 03.11.2025
The advertisement is not a commercial tender or RFP, nor does it commit ONGC to proceed with any procurement process.
For Downloading EOI Documents please Logon to http://tenders.ongc.co.in

REQUIRED PRINCIPAL (REGULAR)

FOR ARMY PUBLIC SCHOOL, JALANDHAR (CBSE AFFILIATED)

Army Public School located at	Upto Class	Application be forwarded to
Army Public School, Jalandhar Cantt	XII Senior Secondary School	Director AWES AWES Cell, HQ Western Command PIN-908543 c/o 56 APO Email - dirawes.wc@awesindia.edu.in

1. Qualification & Experience : As per CBSE Bye-Laws 2018, Chapter 5 Article 5.3 with following QRs :- **(a)** Master Degree or Honours Degree of a Foreign University recognized as equivalent to the Master's Degree of an Indian University by UPSC or Honours Degree of such Indian Universities as may be recognized equivalent to the Master's Degree by UPSC / Association of Indian universities (AIU). **(b)** B Ed or M Ed & IT literate. **(c)** Experience required as under (any one of the following) :- **(i)** At least 3 yrs experience of administrative charge of recognized College having intermediate or higher classes/5 years experience of administrative charge of a recognized High School. **(ii)** At least 5 years experience of teaching in a recognized college or Higher Secondary School or an equivalent teaching experience in a Teachers Trg Institute. **(iii)** At least 8 years teaching experience in a recognized High School. **(iv)** At least 5 years experience including 3 years educational administrative experience and 2 years teaching experience in a recognized High or Higher Secondary School or a Teacher Trg Institute.
2. Age. Below 55 Years (Ex-servicemen below 57 Years) as on last date of submission of application (ref Para 7).
3. Pay & Allowances. Negotiable, along with the other perks as per AWES guidelines. Special incentives for outstanding meritorious candidates.
4. Selection Process. Through panel interviews (only candidates short listed, based on qualification, experience and other criteria as may be considered by the management, will be called for interview).
5. How to Apply. Download application from school website www.apsjalandhar.com and submit the same duly filled and affixed with latest photograph, alongwith self attested educational qualification, experience certificates/testimonials, to the given address.
Only hard copy of application with supporting documents will be considered.
6. Applications received in response to our advertisement published on 09 Sep 2025 will also be considered.
7. Last date for receipt of application: 26 Oct 2025 .
(No TA/DA admissible)

INBRIEF

Sea phase of KONKAN 25 ends with high operational tempo

The sea phase of the bilateral maritime exercise KONKAN 25 between the Indian Navy and U.K.'s Royal Navy concluded on Wednesday following a series of high-tempo naval operations designed to enhance interoperability, operational readiness, and maritime cooperation between the participating navies. Indian Navy informed that during the sea phase, the forces undertook a wide spectrum of complex maritime drills encompassing tactical air warfare, air defence, surface and anti-submarine operations, and underway replenishment. The sea phase ended with a ceremonial steampast, where participating units exchanged traditional naval courtesies.

Govt. to introduce AI in school curriculum from Class 3

The Ministry of Education is set to introduce Artificial Intelligence (AI) in the school curriculum for all students from Class 3 onwards from next academic year (2026-27), according to officials. "We need to move fast so that students and teachers are properly aligned with this technology over the next two to three years. The challenge will be to reach out to over one crore teachers across the country and orient them in imparting AI-related education. The CBSE is developing the framework for AI integration across grades," School Education Secretary Sanjay Kumar said. "A pilot project is already under way for teachers to use AI tools to prepare lesson plans. Our objective is to prepare both the learner and the teacher for the digital economy," he added. PTI

Hydropower project on Chenab gets clearance

The Sawalkote project was first accorded an environmental clearance in 2017; the suspension of the Indus Waters Treaty with Pakistan added momentum to the approval process, says official

Jacob Koshy
NEW DELHI

Earliest project: A view of the Salal Dam on the Chenab river in Jammu and Kashmir. ANI

An apex committee of the Environment Ministry has accorded a fresh environmental clearance to the Sawalkote hydroelectric project, proposed to come up on Chenab river in Ramban, Jammu and Kashmir.

Planned as a run-of-the-river project utilising the flow of the Chenab to generate electricity, it is reportedly the first major hydropower project on the Indus rivers to be accorded environmental clearance following India's suspension of the Indus Waters Treaty (IWT) on April 23, following the Pahalgam terror attack.

"The Expert Appraisal Committee (EAC), after examining the information submitted and detailed deliberations, reiterated its earlier recommendation on the project and recommended the proposal for grant of prior Environmental Clearance to Sawalkote H.E. Project," said the minutes of a meeting conducted on September 26.

The project was first accorded an environmental clearance by a designated committee in 2017, when it was originally being steered by the Jammu and Kashmir Power Development Corporation (JKPDC). However, the JKPDC signed a deal with the National Hydro Power Corporation (NHPC) Ltd. in 2021 to build and commission the project and be effectively in charge of it until 2061.

Despite the designated committee's nod, the Environment Ministry could not clear the project as the JKPDC could not procure a forest clearance - which follows a parallel approval process. In September 2023, the project was first accorded a 'stage 1 forest clearance' as per publicly available records.

While the process of transferring the project to the NHPC has been on since 2021, a slew of approvals from the Central Electricity Authority and the Central Water Commission were accorded in July 2025. Public hearings, required to be done under the provisions of the Forest Rights Act, were done between December 2022 to February 2023.

"The Sawalkote project was already going through various stages of approval. Given its size – though it does not have a storage dam – it will be the largest project of its kind and has always had certain strategic importance. The suspension of the IWT and the plan to utilise the full potential of the eastern Indus rivers have added momentum to the approval process," a senior official, aware of the approval process of hydroelectric projects, told The *Hindu*, but declined to be identified.

Project cost goes up

From an earlier estimate of about ₹22,000 crore, estimated cost of the project has ballooned to ₹31,380 crore.

It is projected to have an installed power capacity of 1,856 MW and generate about 8,000 million units of electricity annually.

Cough syrup deaths: pharma firm owner sent to police custody

Mehul Malpani
BHOPAL

The owner of Sresan Pharmaceuticals, a Tamil Nadu-based firm that made a cough syrup linked to the death of 24 children in Madhya Pradesh, was remanded in police custody for 10 days by a court in Chhindwara district on Friday.

G. Ranganathan was arrested from his home in Chennai by a Madhya Pradesh Special Investigation Team (SIT) on Thursday.

He was produced in a court in Parasia, where a case has been registered. He was booked after the Coldrif cough syrup, manufactured at his factory in Kancheepuram in Tamil Nadu, was linked to the death of children due to kidney failure.

Jabalpur Inspector-General of Police Pramod Verma told *The Hindu* that Mr. Ranganathan would be interrogated for details on the manufacturing procedures followed at his factory.

Motives being probed

"We will find out who are the people involved in the manufacturing and quality checks for cough syrups at his company so that the medicines qualify on the safety parameters. Further action, whether its pressing more charges against him or booking more people, will be taken based on the evidence," he said.

Mr. Verma also pointed out that it was "highly unusual" that such high amounts of a toxic chemical could be added by mistake or due to negligence. The cough syrup's samples were found to be adulterated with more than 46% diethylene glycol (DEG) in tests conducted by the drug control authorities of Madhya Pradesh and Tamil Nadu.

"We are at an initial stage of the investigation at the moment but we will definitely try to find out if there was any motive involved behind this," Mr. Verma added.

SC rejects plea for independent investigation

NEW DELHI

A public interest petition seeking an independent investigation by a judicial commission or an expert panel to probe the cough syrup deaths, which have claimed the lives of 22 children in Madhya Pradesh, was short-lived in the Supreme Court on Friday. The court dismissed the plea while asking advocate-petitioner Vishal Tiwari how many times he had filed PILs in his career.

Centre issues guidelines for retiring govt. employees; welfare officer to assist them

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

The Department of Pensions and Pensioners' Welfare (DPPW) under the Centre said on Friday that it has finalised guidelines for timely payment of retirement dues of Union government officials, which entail appointment of a welfare officer, or pension *mitra*, for each employee.

The officer would be deputed by the head of office and assigned to each retiring employee to facilitate filling up of forms and other formalities. The officer shall also be responsible for hand-holding the dependents for documentation and verification in the event of death of the pensioner while submitting the claim for family pension.

Assistance would be given to retirees to fill up forms and complete formalities.

The guidelines have been issued for effective inter-ministerial coordination for timely payment of retirement dues (pension and pensionary dues) and issue of Pension Payment Orders (PPOs)/e-PPOs of Central Civil Services (CCS) employees.

"Major procedural reforms such as clarification on vigilance clearance before the retirement has been included for reducing the delay in issuance of PPOs/ePPOs. It has been clarified that no pension can be delayed for the want of vigilance clearance as per the specific provisions under CCS(Pension) Rules, 2021. It has been underlined that each ministry/department should ensure that vigilance clearance in respect of their retiring employees is issued three months prior to retirement since the validity of the clearance is of three months as per extant norms," the Department stated.

Bodies of 2 missing soldiers recovered in south Kashmir

Peerzada Ashiq
SRINAGAR

The bodies of two soldiers who went missing on the intervening night of October 6-7 during an anti-terror operation have been recovered from the upper reaches of south Kashmir, the Army said on Friday.

The two soldiers went missing on the slopes and ridges that are known as terror routes and dotted with hideouts. The Army sources ruled out any terror angle as the bodies, along with service rifles, were recovered.

"The soldiers were conducting relentless counter-terror operations in the Kishtwar Range of Kokernag (in south Kashmir), battling extreme weather conditions. Their courage and dedication will forever inspire us," a Srinagar-based Army spokesman said.

The Army identified the deceased soldiers as Lance Havildar Palash Ghosh and Lance Naik Sujay Ghosh.

"The team confronted a severe snowstorm and whiteout conditions in the mountains of south Kashmir. Since then, the two soldiers have gone out of communication," the Army spokesperson said.

The Army launched search operations from multiple points in south Kashmir and Kishtwar on Tuesday to trace the missing soldiers. Intense search and rescue operations were hampered due to prevailing adverse weather conditions, the Army said.

6 State-level RTI panels are defunct; appeals can take years to be heard: report

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

As the 20th anniversary of the Right to Information Act, 2005 approaches, many State Information Commissions (SICs) and the Central Information Commission (CIC) are either paralysed or so understaffed that hearings could take years to happen, according to a report by a citizens' group working to promote transparency in government functioning.

The SICs and the CIC hear appeals and complaints when citizens are dissatisfied with the result of an RTI application. There were over 2.4 lakh appeals in 2024.

The latest edition of the Satark Nagrik Sangathan (SNS)'s annual assessment shows that six SICs – Jharkhand, Himachal Pradesh, Telangana, Goa, Tripura and Madhya Pradesh – were defunct for varying periods of time between July 1, 2024 to October 7, 2025 as no new Commissioners were appointed upon the incumbents demitting office."

The SICs of Karnataka, Maharashtra, Madhya Pradesh, Tamil Nadu and Bihar are functioning without a full strength of Commissioners.

Meanwhile, the Central Information Commission, which hears appeals against RTI responses to Union government organisations, is functioning with only two Information Commissioners, with nine vacancies, including for the Chief Information Commissioner, and hearings can take over a year to come up.

The backlog is mounting, with Commissions only able to dispose of 1.8 lakh cases in a year with 2.4 lakh appeals. In some States, the current speed of hearings taking place is far slower: the SNS's report "shows that the Telangana SIC would take an estimated 29 years and two months – a matter filed on July 1, 2025 would be disposed [of] in the year 2054."

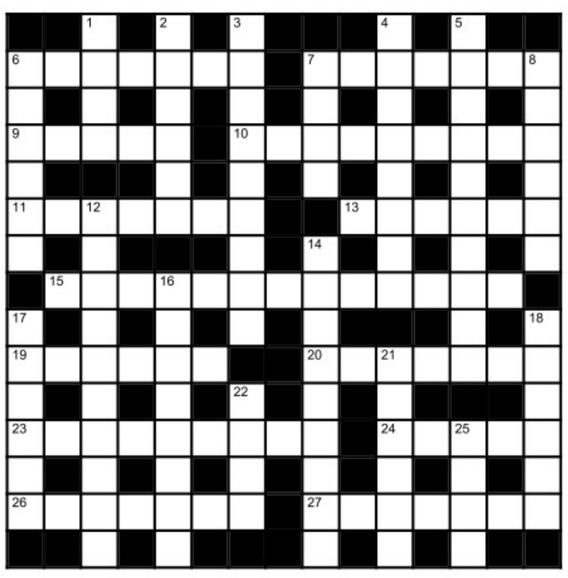
Over 4 lakh appeals and complaints were pending as of June, with Maharashtra (95,340), Karnataka (47,825) and Tamil Nadu (41,059) with the largest outstanding backlog.

TH CROSSWORD + 14611

(set by Mythical)

To solve this puzzle online, get across to our crossword site. @ *https://qrgo.page.link/jjpTn*

SCAN TO PLAY



Across

6 Stock pictures left by Indian photographer initially in vehicle (4,3)
7 Doctor quietly leaves, hurt and exhausted (7)
9 Poor knight unwell, wanting a bit of support (5)
10 Possibly most popular segment is the opening track (5,4)
11 Elizabethan courtier topless in bizarre light opera (7)
13 Handsome youth in trouble over misdeed (6)
15 Perhaps yak about bun, roast beef & a slice of dill (5,2,6)
19 Earn a spot when model moves to the front (6)
20 Inspect Louvre art scene occasionally (7)
23 Oh, come by noon anyway to see maze (9)
24 Right away, abandoned Portia in area outside (5)
26 Combined action of unit involved in crime discussed at Yard (7)
27 Metal's name initially influenced by Doctor Mobius? Not quite (7)

Down

1 Being loved is fabulously exciting initially (4)
2 Ancient scrolls, partly blanked out, found in French capital mainly (6)
3 Small gallery covering what Goa achieved in 1987 for one (9)
4 Stop gangster earlier in automobile? - that's the programme (8)
5 Deals with fights (10)
6 Say, Jack accepts article is fake news (6)
7 Revolutionary went a long way (4)
8 Study summary (6)
12 Deputy unusually lenient at University (10)
14 Sailor's crooked - smuggling gold, taking things in (9)
16 Here, local dances rhapsodically (8)
17 Wife remains - cleans up (6)
18 Improve 'Measure for Measure' somewhat ? (6)
21 Hire writer from the south - provide pens only (6)
22 Essentially, stop worrying old monarchist (4)
25 Detective story read aloud (4)

SUDOKU

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			7		4	5		6
	4	3					7	
1			5		2			4
	6					3	9	
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			2			1		7
				5			4	

DIFFICULTY RATING: ★★☆☆☆

No.SS6667 Distribution: www.knightfeatures.com

Solution to previous puzzle

A	D	E	P	T	S		A	U
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	H		C		F		M	
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Solution to yesterday's Sudoku

1	3	8	2	5	7	4	6	9
2	6	4	9	8	3	1	5	7
9	5	7	1	4	6	8	3	2
4	9	3	7	1	8	6	2	5
5	8	2	6	9	4	3	7	1
6	7	1	5	3	2	9	4	8
8	1	6	4	7	5	2	9	3
3	4	5	8	2	9	7	1	6
7	2	9	3	6	1	5	8	4

FAITH

Murugan's abode

After killing the demon Soorapadman, Lord Murugan wanted to rest in a serene atmosphere. So, He travelled to Tiruttani. On the way, He halted every now and then to do Siva puja. Murugan never missed His daily puja to His father Lord Siva, said Desa Mangayarkkarasi in a discourse.

As He was proceeding to Tiruttani, He saw a small hill, and decided to do Siva puja there. He established a linga at the foot of the hill, and worshipped the linga. Since this linga was established by Kandan, which is another name for Murugan, the linga came to be known as Kandareeshwarar. Murugan stayed on the hill briefly, and there is a shrine for Murugan on the hill. The place is called Kundrathur, and is not far from Chennai. It is the village where Sekkizhar, author of Peria Puranam, was born. Because it is to the south of Tiruttani (*Thanigai*), Kundrathur is called *Then Thanigai* (southern *Thanigai*). It is also called Adi sthala. It is said that if the Vel Maaral mantra is recited in Kundrathur, a devotee will be blessed.

Murugan faces north in this sthala. If a deity faces in a direction other than the one that it usually faces, worship of the deity will bring great benefits to the devotee. Murugan is seen in this sthala with both His consorts – Valli and Devayanai. However, we cannot have darshan of all three at the same time. It is Murugan alone that we can see if we stand right before the sanctum. We have to move to one side to see Valli, and to the other side to see Devayanai. From each side, we can see Murugan with one of His consorts, but not with both of them. The hill is a small one, with 84 steps. Murugan is known by the name of Subrahmanya Swamy in this sthala.

HUNGRY FOR RUNS

'There's always a monkey in our mind that wants that hundred'

R.V. MOORTHY

I am definitely grateful for whatever I've done today [Friday]. However, there's always a monkey in our mind that wants that hundred. So, I was looking forward to a lot more. I was a bit more free and I expressed a bit better in this innings — India No. 3 Sai Sudharsan on his 165-ball 87 against West Indies.

BIG BLOW

Difficult to cope with the absence of Shamar and Alzarri: Reifer

R.V. MOORTHY

West Indies assistant coach Floyd Reifer said that the team is finding it tough to deal with the absence of injured pace duo Shamar Joseph and Alzarri Joseph. "Their absence is a big miss for us. When they are there along with Jayden Seales, there is a synergy to our attack," he said.

WAY FORWARD

One of the top six needs to hang around: Lanka coach Ratnayake

AP

We've spoken about batting deep and how one of the top six needs to hang around. That's what cost us the game against India. The way the game is headed now, with tailenders scoring runs and winning games, we should also aim to do that — Sri Lanka head coach Rumesh Ratnayake ahead of the match against England.

ABSENT-MINDED

Kasparov stretches lead to five points over 'forgetful' Anand

FLICKR/STLCHESSCLUB

Viswanathan Anand missed his chance against Garry Kasparov as the Russian great stretched his lead to five points with two wins and as many draws on the penultimate day of the Clutch Chess Legends. Kasparov won the first game as Anand at a close-to-winning position ran out of time after "forgetting" to keep an eye on clock.

Jaiswal's big ton puts India in a dominant position

The left-handed opener's unbeaten 173 takes the home side to 318 for two at close on day one; Sai Sudharsan plays his part with a contribution of 87 in a mammoth second-wicket stand of 193

WI IN INDIA

Vivek Krishnan
NEW DELHI

Yashasvi Jaiswal's first Test hundred came against the West Indies on debut in 2023. If that was an exhibition of grit and self-restraint from a youngster hoping to find his feet in the five-day game, the 23-year-old's hundred against the same opposition at the Arun Jaitley Stadium on Friday was a show of flamboyance revealing of the success he has found since that initiation.

Under azure skies on day one of the second Test, Jaiswal feasted on an inexperienced bowling attack with a range of square cuts and delightful drives to get to his seventh hundred in just his 26th appearance. At the close, his unbeaten 173 took India to 318 for two. He has crossed 150 in five of his seven tons.

The left-handed opener from Mumbai pounced on the short and full deliveries, which the West Indies bowlers were often guilty of dishing up. B. Sai Sudharsan, who had scored one half-century in his previous seven innings, played his part with a contribution of 87 in a mammoth second-wicket stand of 193 runs.

In full flow: Jaiswal feasted on an inexperienced bowling attack. R.V. MOORTHY

The foundation was provided by Jaiswal and K.L. Rahul on a placid pitch. Having exercised caution to gauge the nature of the deck in the opening hour - India scored just 29 runs in 12 overs – the openers upped the ante after drinks. Rahul's dismissal on 38 in the 18th over, then, was a bolt from the blue.

It took a peach of a delivery from left-arm spinner Jomel Warrican, armoured with flight, dip and 8.4 degrees of spin, for the 33-year-old opener to be stumped. Jaiswal and Sai Sudharsan quickly restored India's dominance.

For the No. 3 from Tamil Nadu, this was a timely effort. A full toss on his pads by Warrican was a generous gift to get going. As he got a measure of the surface's characteristics, he enthralled with lovely punches off the back foot against spin.

In the second session, Jaiswal cut loose as India added 126 runs in 30 overs. In the very first over after the lunch break, bowled by pacer Jayden Seales, he signalled his intention with three fours. With the West Indian attack carrying severe limitations, a rare opportunity came the visitor's way when Sai Sudharsan miscued Justin Greaves to Warrican at short midwicket on 58. But the latter made a hash of the catch.

Eventually, Sai Sudharsan fell 13 runs shy of a maiden ton when he was dismissed leg-before by Warrican.

There wasn't much else for the men from the Caribbean to savour on a grinding day.

SCOREBOARD

INDIA — 1ST INNINGS
Yashasvi Jaiswal (batting) 173 *(253b, 22x4)*, K.L. Rahul st. Imlach b Warrican 38 *(54b, 5x4, 1x6)*, B. Sai Sudharsan lbw b Warrican 87 *(165b, 12x4)*, Shubman Gill (batting) 20 *(68b, 3x4)*; Total (for two wkts. in 90 overs): 318.

FALL OF WICKETS
1-58 (Rahul, 17.3 overs), 2-251 (Sai Sudharsan, 68.3).

WEST INDIES BOWLING
Seales 16-1-59-0, Phillip 13-2-44-0, Greaves 8-1-26-0, Pierre 20-1-74-0, Warrican 20-3-60-2, Chase 13-0-55-0.

Toss: India.

Sai Sudharsan's backfoot game is unique, says Kotak

Vivek Krishnan
NEW DELHI

Specialist: Batting coach Kotak acknowledged that Sai Sudharsan is 'pretty good against spin'. R.V. MOORTHY

Just before B. Sai Sudharsan took guard in the 18th over of India's first innings against West Indies on Friday, he had witnessed left-arm spinner Jomel Warrican produce a ripper that turned sharply past K.L. Rahul's bat. It could have heightened the nerves of a left-hand batter who is looking to find his groove at the Test level.

But over the course of his partnership with Yashasvi Jaiswal on day one, the 23-year-old stepped up with a timely contribution of 87 while consuming 165 deliveries. The highlight of his effort was the punches on the back foot against spin that he drilled into the gaps through extra cover and mid-on.

Full of praise

At the end of the day, batting coach Sitanshu Kotak complimented Sai Sudharsan's skills against spin.

"He comes from Tamil Nadu, where they play a lot on turning wickets. So, he's pretty good against spin. Not many do his back-foot game and some shots that he plays.

"With his bat swing, the amount of power he generates on the back foot is amazing. On a turning track, he is a very good player," Kotak said.

Need to be selective

However, his dismissal on 87 by Warrican also highlighted why he may need to be more selective with his back-foot play. Just like in Ahmedabad, he was trapped leg-before to a delivery that he could have moved forward to.

"For a lot of balls that he negotiates on the back foot, others would go forward. Some of the full balls, sometimes he plays back. We're trying to cut that out. He very much knows that, and he is trying."

Halliday, Devine shine as White Ferns post first win

ODI WORLD CUP

Rajdeep Saha
GUWAHATI

New Zealand opened its account in the Women's ODI World Cup 2025 edition with a facile 100-run win against Bangladesh at the Barsapara Stadium on Friday.

Sophie Devine and Brooke Halliday added 112 for the fourth wicket before pacers Jess Kerr and Lea Tahuhu and picked up three wickets apiece to dismantle the opponent's chase.

Bangladesh captain Nigar Sultana didn't mind losing the toss as Rabeya Khan removed Georgia Plimmer and Amelia Kerr cheaply. While the spinner constricted the run flow, pace sensation Marufa Akter (one for 58 in seven overs) had a forgettable evening.

Suzie Bates, who scored her first runs in the tournament, deposited Marufa's wider deliveries around the field as the bowler couldn't manufacture the prodigious swing she usually gets. But, Bates' vigil was cut short at 29 after ball-watching got her run out in the PowerPlay.

Clean striking: Halliday hit five fours and a six in her 69. RITU RAJ KONWAR

It was the big stand between Devine (63) and Halliday (69) which rescued New Zealand before the latter was sent back by Fahima Khatun.

Skipper Devine, who notched up her third consecutive 50-plus score this tournament, looked beat in the death overs. A Type 1 diabetic, the 36-year-old ate what looked like gummy bears to revive glucose levels. Fuelled up, she smacked consecutive sixes in the 44th over off Nishita Akter Nishi before the spinner castled her.

Tahuhu and Eden Carson mustered up 16 runs in the last over to take their side to 227 for nine.

If Bangladesh was to pull off its second-highest chase in the format, it would have needed a decent start. But the Tigresses slumped to 22 for three at the end of the PowerPlay with Jess and Rosemary Mair striking with their swing and denying boundaries. In the next four overs, Bangladesh lost three more wickets for 11 runs. Fahima and Rabeya's 44-run partnership for the eighth wicket tried to take the chase deep but the side was bundled out in 39.5 overs.

The scores: New Zealand 227/9 in 50 overs (Brooke Halliday 69, Sophie Devine 63, Rabeya Khan 3/30) bt Bangladesh 127 in 39.5 overs (Fahima Khatun 34, Jess Kerr 3/21, Lea Tahuhu 3/22); **Toss:** NZ; **PoM:** Halliday.

Winless Sri Lanka vs. unbeaten England

Lavanya L
COLOMBO

The R. Premadasa Stadium here has been a panacea for the overdosing-on-runs high that ODI cricket has found itself in, with weather-dictated slow burners in the Women's ODI World Cup.

England – with two wins in two games in the tournament – will not take Sri Lanka, despite all its coherence problems, lightly, as the sides clash in a Women's ODI World Cup fixture here on Saturday.

In 20 meetings in the format, two matches didn't yield a result, and Sri Lanka stunned England only once, in the 2013 World Cup in India – a one-wicket triumph that Chamari Athapaththu's side will do well to revisit in a tournament packed with comebacks.

England opener Tammy Beaumont was candid about the dearth of left-handers in the batting order, with only Linsey Smith representing the southpaws and therefore being given extra help with technique in the nets.

But what England will be wary about is Sri Lanka's left-arm bowlers, who have a dangerous ability to drop pace on the ball, making batting on surfaces like these even harder.

Today's Match

Colombo, 3 p.m.

HEAD-TO-HEAD ODIs
Played: 20
England: 17 | Sri Lanka: 1
NR 2

IN WORLD CUPS
Played: 6
England: 5 | Sri Lanka: 1

LIVE ON STAR SPORTS 1 (SD & HD) & JIOHOTSTAR

In the nets, the side trained with young boys, potentially from the under-14 academy, to simulate the action and pace of some of Sri Lanka's mainstays.

With its 'home' World Cup fixture against Australia washed out a few days ago, Sri Lanka will be raring to go as it seeks its first win in the tournament.

The side had an extended fielding session, working on high catches against the floodlights and their reaction times inside the circle.

Coach Rumesh Ratnayake revealed ahead of the fixture that there was palpable excitement among the team. A short spell spent cuddling the resident dogs at the venue ahead of their training block was a visible blessing in disguise.

De Klerk walks the talk in SA's run chase

Anirudh Velamuri
VISAKHAPATNAM

In Nadine de Klerk's career-best unbeaten 84, there was a method to the madness, one that she clearly spelt out on the eve of the World Cup match against India.

"My role is to come in the back end and finish games. It's about adapting to the conditions and building a partnership with whoever's in there," she explained.

She did as she said.

Chloe Tryon and de Klerk's 69-run stand helped South Africa stay in the hunt. When the former fell, with 41 runs required from 24 balls, de Klerk stepped on the accelerator.

Nadine de Klerk. K.R. DEEPAK

Calculated assault: In the 23 balls after registering her half-century, Richa hit six fours and two sixes. K. R. DEEPAK

I adapt according to the situation: Richa

Anirudh Velamuri
VISAKHAPATNAM

The collapse against South Africa at the ACA-VDCA Stadium here on Thursday, while putting more spotlight on the faltering top order, also showed - for the third match in this World Cup - that India's lower middle order is not to be trifled with.

With wickets falling regularly and India staring at a well-below-par total, Richa Ghosh played a measured innings, taking 53 balls to cross the 50-run mark. In the 23 balls after registering her seventh ODI half-century, she hit six fours and two maximums, finishing on 94 from 77 balls.

"When I went in to bat, a few wickets had fallen, so I had to build a partnership. I was discussing with Amanjot [Kaur] about how we could take the innings deep and build from there. Even with Sneh [Rana] it was the same – how to make a partnership and, if we got the chance," she explained.

"Whatever situation I get, I try to adapt and place myself according to that. I think that no matter how many overs are left, I'll try to play through and finish the match."

"We'll sit down and review. One game won't change our mindset. We'll stay positive. Whatever lessons we got from the match, we'll carry those forward."

INBRIEF

Dabang Delhi holds off a fighting Gujarat Giants

Dabang Delhi completed the double over Gujarat Giants with a 39-33 win in a PKL-12 match in Chennai on Friday. Krishan Dhull did the star-turn, coming off the bench to register a Super 10. Himanshu Singh registered a Super 10 for Gujarat Giants, with Mohammadreza Shadloui and Himanshu Jaglan also securing High Fives. Unfortunately, it wasn't enough for the Giants. Later, U Mumba beat Bengal Warriorz 48-29.

Ahmedabad Defenders outspikes Calicut Heroes

Ahmedabad Defenders stunned defending champion Calicut Heroes 12-15, 15-12, 15-12, 16-14 in a Prime Volleyball League match in Hyderabad on Friday.

Algeria qualifies for 2026 FIFA World Cup

Algeria secured a 3-0 victory over Somalia and qualified for the 2026 FIFA World Cup on Thursday. Algeria is the fourth African qualifier after Morocco, Tunisia and Egypt.

The result: Somalia 0 lost to Algeria 3 (Amoura 6, 58, Mahrez 19).

Dhruv-Tanisha duo enters Arctic Open quarterfinals

The Indian mixed-doubles pair of Dhruv Kapila and Tanisha Crasto entered the quarterfinals of the Arctic Open 2025 in Vantaa, Finland, on Thursday. They beat the Ukrainian duo of Oleksii Titov and Yevheniia Kantemyr 23-25, 21-14, 21-17. Anmol Kharb beat Taiwan's Hsu Wen-chi 18-21, 21-18, 21-17. Tanya Hemanth was ousted in the second round after she fell to a 21-9, 21-8 defeat against second seed Ratchanok Intanon of Thailand. In men's singles, Tharun Mannepalli lost to Japan's Koki Watanabe 22-20, 21-12.

APL: Knights register second victory of the campaign

Kakatiya Knights registered its second win of the inaugural Archery Premier League (APL) by beating Chola Chiefs 5-1 at the Yamuna Sports Complex in New Delhi on Friday. Avneet Kaur and Nico Wiener were in top form for the Knights and delivered four 10s early on. As the match progressed, they maintained their consistency.

The greatest would be the greatest: Lewis

The legendary American sprinter says the ones that dominate a generation will dominate any generation; adds that he favours forever testing

ATHLETICS

Uthra Ganesan
NEW DELHI

When Carl Lewis speaks, everyone listens. The man who retired from active sports in 1997 at the age of 36 with nine Olympic and eight World Championship golds across track and field events is in town as the international brand ambassador for the 20th edition of the Vedanta Delhi Half Marathon and did not hold back on a multitude of issues ranging from doping to improved sports science in an exhaustive interaction here on Friday.

Lewis, now 64 and a coach at his alma mater University of Houston, was of the opinion that the best athletes are not confined to their generation and was categorical that the lure of social media had led youngsters to focus more on presentation rather than performance.

"I would love to have run against a lot of generations. I would have loved to have run against Jesse Owens, Bob Hayes, Tommy Smith, John Carlos, Steve Williams. And then, of course, the kids now. Come on, I'd handle them.

"The greatest would be the greatest; the ones that dominate a generation will dominate any generation. So I would love to run against Jesse Owens, just to say I did, but I wouldn't want to run against Jesse Owens, because the guy was so much better. You think he wouldn't be better now?

Lewis, who himself had to battle doping allegations before being exonerated by the authorities, also favoured forever testing.

"I think the numbers are going up because the testing is getting better. I think we need to continue to test.

"The vast majority of people are clean and do the right thing. But I think until there's the fear of forever, we're not going to have it. Now they continue to test for years.

"I think they should test every time. Every Olympics, they should test the old Olympics forever. And if they get someone 20 years from now, that's okay.

"They should go after them financially. And maybe that ends your career. Well, that's on you," he said.

Asked about the changes in athletics over years, Lewis felt that while some areas had gotten much better with time - including diet, nutrition, videos and recording-- the actual mechanics of running had gotten much worse.

"When I look up on the Internet, every day I see 10-15 people promoting their running. And at least 95% of them are completely wrong," he said.

Holding court: Lewis is vocal about the issue of doping in athletics. SHIV KUMAR PUSHPAKAR

Indonesia ends India's stellar run in semifinals

BADMINTON

Nihit Sachdeva
GUWAHATI

Indonesia took the shine off India's historic first-ever medal at the World junior mixed team badminton championships as the defending champion beat the host 45-35, 45-21 in the semifinals here on Friday.

In the second semifinal, 14-time winner China survived a scare to beat Japan 45-42, 38-45, 45-42 and set up a rematch of last year's summit clash.

After confirming at least a bronze courtesy a comeback win over two-time champion Korea in the quarterfinals, the Indian juniors could not be blamed for aiming higher and upsetting Indonesia.

The vociferous home crowd, sparse at best in capacity, backed India to the hilt but on the court at the National Center of Excellence, it was Indonesia making all the noise.

India needed Unnati Hooda to provide a considerable cushion from her singles matches to make up for Indonesia's superiority in doubles. Once that didn't materialise, it was always going to be a tall ask for the rest of the squad.

Promising start: Bhargav and Viswa Tej bagged the opening boys' doubles fixture. BADMINTON PHOTO

Bhargav Ram Arigela and Viswa Tej Gobburu bagged the opening boys' doubles fixture 9-6. Unnati kept India 18-16 ahead in the first set after facing Thalita Ramadhani Wiryawan in the battle between two of the world's top 10 juniors.

That two-point lead vanished in no time.

Mohammad Zaki Ubaidillah, the top-ranked male junior, dominated Rounak Chouhan with his movement and deft touches at the net.

Down 23-27, C. Lalramsanga and Vishakha Toppo fought back in mixed doubles to restore parity at 33-33. Lalramsanga, a talented doubles prospect from Mizoram, troubled Ikhsan Lintang Pramudya and Rinjani Kwinnara Nastine with his speed and court craft. However, that brief comeback turned out to be a flickering flame of hope which was soon distinguished as the visitor bossed the rest of the proceedings, conceding only 23 points in the next six matches.

The individual championships will be held at the same venue from October 13 to 19.

India hopes to finish on the podium in Asian TT C'ship

Amol Karhadkar
BHUBANESWAR

The last time top-flight table tennis came to Odisha – the unofficial capital of India's sporting events – lockdown wasn't part of daily vocabulary, the state was still under regional rule, A. Sharath Kamal was Indian sport's poster boy, and Cuttack had just hosted the 2019 Commonwealth Table Tennis Championships.

Six years on, the sport returns to the state, this time to Bhubaneswar, with the 28th Asian Table Tennis Team Championships. The Kalinga Indoor Athletics Stadium will play host to more than 300 delegates from 22 Asian nations over five days starting Saturday.

The world's top-ranked paddlers – Sun Yingsha and Wang Manyu among women, Wang Chuqin and Lin Shidong among men – headline a field brimming with world-class talent.

Though the event serves as a qualifier for next year's World Championships in London, India's men's and women's teams have already sealed direct qualification.

The focus, therefore, will be on defending the twin bronze medals won in 2023 – a task that will test the hosts' depth and resolve.

The men's squad, led by the bespectacled duo of Manush Shah and Manav Thakkar, faces a stern quarterfinal against Hong Kong on Tuesday.

In the women's camp, with Sreeja Akula sidelined by a shoulder injury, Manika Batra will rely on Diya Chitale to keep India's medal hopes alive.

Key player: Manika, seen with head Costantini, will spearhead India's challenge. AMOL KARHADKAR

India squads:

Men: Manav Thakkar, Manush Shah, Ankur Bhattacharjee, Payas Jain, SFR Snehit.

Women: Manika Batra, Diya Chitale, Yashaswini Ghorpade, Swastika Ghosh, Sutirtha Mukherjee.

Scotland keeps dream alive, Dutch coast past Malta

WC QUALIFYING

Agence France-Presse
PARIS

Scotland roared back to beat Greece 3-1 on Thursday to boost its hopes of direct qualification for the 2026 World Cup, while Cody Gakpo inspired the Netherlands to a 4-0 win in Malta.

The Greeks took the lead in Glasgow early in the second period through Kostas Tsimikas, before Scotland hit back through Ryan Christie, Lewis Ferguson and Lyndon Dykes to secure a second win from three Group C qualifying matches for Steve Clarke's side.

Scotland is looking to qualify for the World Cup for the first time since 1998. Denmark tops Group C, though is level on seven points with Scotland and four ahead of Greece, courtesy of a handsome 6-0 win in Belarus.

Napoli striker Rasmus Hojlund continued his fine vein of form as he netted twice for the Danes.

Liverpool's Gakpo converted two spot-kicks either side of the break and set up Manchester City midfielder Tijjani Reijnders for the Netherlands's third goal, with Memphis Depay also netting late on.

Slotting it in: Gakpo converts from the spot for the Netherlands' second goal. AFP

A fourth win in five matches for Ronald Koeman's side leaves it top of Group G on 13 points, three clear of second-placed Poland.

Finland sits third - also on 10 points, albeit having played one match more than the Dutch and Polish - after a 2-1 win at home to Lithuania.

The results: Group C: Scotland 3 (Christie 64, Ferguson 80, Dykes 90+3) bt Greece 1 (Tsimikas 62); Belarus 0 lost to Denmark 6 (Froholdt 14, Hojlund 19, 45, Dorgu 45+6, Dreyer 66, 78). **Group G:** Finland 2 (Kallman 48, Marhiev 55) bt Lithuania 1 (Sirvys 25); Malta 0 lost to Netherlands 4 (Gakpo 12-pen, 49-pen, Reijnders 57, Depay 90+3). **Group H:** Austria 10 (Schmid 7, Arnautovic 8, 47, 83, 84, Gregoritsch 24, Posch 30, 42, Laimer 45, Wurmbrand 76) bt San Marino 0; Cyprus 2 (Laifis 45+1, Pittas 90+7-pen) drew with Bosnia and Hercegovina 2 (Katic 10, Michael 36-og). **Group L:** Faroe Islands 4 (Sorensen 16, 55, Roganovic 36-og, Frederiksberg 72-pen) bt Montenegro 0; Czechia 0 drew with Croatia 0.

Himanshu eclipses Neeraj's junior record

ATHLETICS

Sports Bureau
BHUBANESWAR

Asian under-18 champion Himanshu Jakhar shattered star javelin thrower Neeraj Chopra's 11-year-old meet record in the National junior athletics championships at the Kalinga Stadium here and booked a slot in the 2026 World under-20 championships on Friday.

Himanshu, who bagged the Asian gold in Saudi Arabia in April with a throw of 67.57m, showed a massive improvement to register 79.96m in the men's under-18 qualifying stage. It was better than Neeraj's 76.50m set in Vijayawada in 2014 and the World under-20 qualification mark of 68.50m.

Mohit Choudhary clocked 14:09.71 to win the under-20 men's 5000m title with a new meet record. Alice Vikal (under-16 girls) achieved 13.26m to erase Alka Singh's national mark of 13.10m in shot put qualification.

The results: Finals (winners only):
U-20: Men: 100m: Parth Singh (Jha) 10.52; **5000m:** Mohit Choudhary (TG) 14:09.71 (NMR, Old, 14:12, Vinod Singh, 2024); **Pole vault:** R. Hariharan Ramesh (TN) 4.60m. **Women: 100m:** Suba Dharsini S. (TN) 11.94; **1500m:** Vaishnavi Rawal (Kar) 4:29.19; **5000m:** Sonam Parmar (MP) 17:20.98; **Discus:** Nikita Kumari (Raj) 48.81m. **U-18: Men: 100m:** Aditya Pisal (Mah) 10.71. **Women: 100m:** Aarti Siwach (Har) 11.95. **U-16: Boys: 60m:** Abhinanth A.B. (TN) 6.95; **Girls: 60m:** Jilsha Jinil (Ker) 7.81. **U-14: Boys: Triathlon (B):** Sadhon Singh (WB) 2931 points; **Girls: Triathlon (B):** Arthi S.K. (TN) 3147 (NMR, Old, 2802, Arthi S.K.); **Triathlon (C):** Sara Ghod (Mah) 2511 points.

LIVE TELECAST

India vs West Indies: 2nd Test, day 2, Star Sports 2 & JioHotstar, 9.30 a.m.

Tennis: Shanghai Masters, Sony Sports Ten 2 & LIV, 2 p.m.

Women's ODI World Cup: Star Sports 1 & JioHotstar, 3 p.m.

Afghanistan vs Bangladesh: 2nd ODI, FanCode, 5.30 p.m.

Football: European WC Qualifiers, Sony Sports Ten 2, 5 & LIV, 6.30, 9.30 p.m. & 12.30 a.m. (Sunday)

PVL: Sony Sports Ten 1 & LIV, 6.30 p.m.

PKL: Star Sports 2 & JioHotstar, 8 p.m.

India's Bhavtegh shoots a perfect 50 in qualification

Press Trust of India
ATHENS

India's Bhavtegh Singh Gill made a perfect start to his campaign at the ISSF World Championship for Shotgun, hitting all 50 targets on the opening day of the men's skeet qualification here on Friday.

A two-time junior World championship medallist, Bhavtegh's perfect round saw him join four-time Olympic champion and three-time world champion Vincent Hancock of the United States, 2000 Olympics gold medallist Mikola Milchev of Ukraine, World Cup medallist Henrik Jansson of Sweden, Kacper Jerzyall Baksalary (Poland), and Emil Kjeldgaard (Denmark), all of whom also shot perfect 50s to share the top of the leaderboard after the opening day.

Hitaashee keeps Indian hopes alive at halfway stage

GOLF

Uthra Ganesan
GURUGRAM

Home favourite Hitaashee Bakshi took over from compatriot Vani Kapoor at the top of the leaderboard at halfway stage with a bogey-free round of five-under 67 on Day Two of the Hero Women's Indian Open here on Friday.

Hitaashee, who had a two-under 70 on Day One for a two-day total of seven-under-par, began with a birdie on the fourth hole, adding back-to-back birdies on the seventh and eighth and then two more on the back nine at the DLF Golf and Country Club.

"I am feeling good, this is my home course. I hold the women's course record of -8 and I'm going to try to beat that the next few days," the 21-year old, in her first full season on the Ladies European Tour, said after the day's play.

Amateur Zara Anand continued to be tied second one shot behind with Germany's Verena Gimmy with both golfers playing a contrasting game. While Verena had four birdies and two bogeys, Zara had a more adventurous outing with two bogeys, a double bogey and six birdies on her card.

Last year's runner-up Chiara Tamburlini also had a better outing than Day One with round of 68 to be placed tied fourth as the cut was applied at eight-over to the top-60 and ties with 70 players making it through to the weekend rounds.

Leading scores (Indians unless stated):
137: Hitaashee Bakshi (70-67); **138:** Verena Gimmy (Ger, 68-70), Zara Anand (68-70); **139:** Chiara Tamburlini (Sui, 71-68), Pranavi Urs (72-67); **140:** Lisa Pettersson (Swe, 71-69); **141:** Shannon Tan (Sin, 68-73), Alive Hewson (Eng, 69-72), Vani Kapoor (67-74). **142:** Kelsey Bennett (Aus, 71-71), Alessia Nobilio (Ita, 70-72), Dorthea Forbrigd (Nor, 73-69); **143:** Elina Nummenpaa (Fin, 73-70); **144:** Avani Prashanth (73-71), Momoka Kobori (NZ, 75-69), Amandeep Drall (74-70), Sarah Schober (Aut, 71-73).

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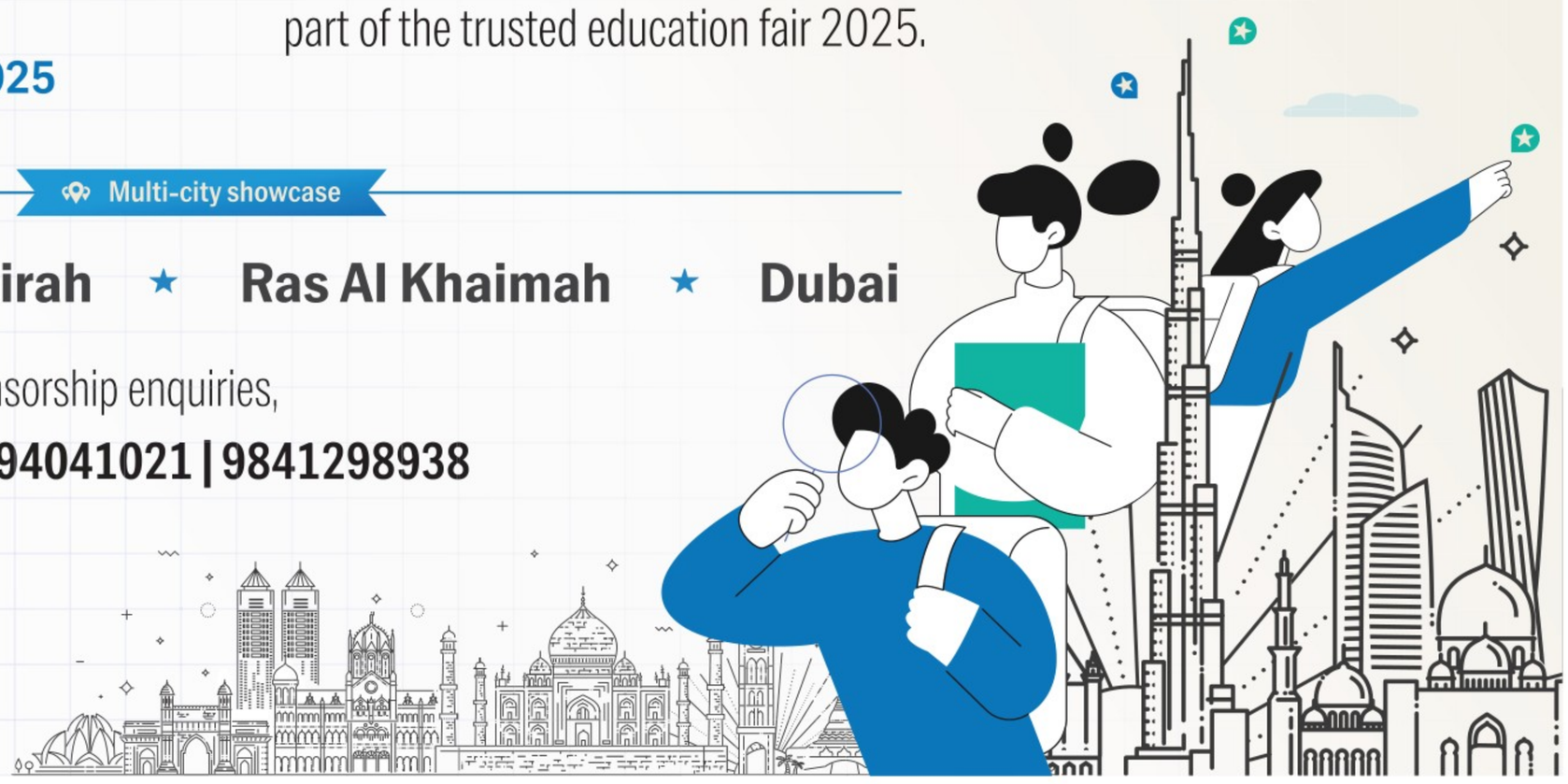

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Thangaraja reigns supreme, clinches Bengaluru Open

The Sri Lankan takes the title by a two-shot margin at a total of 18-under 266, and secures his seventh professional win; the 44-year-old picks up the winning cheque worth ₹15 lakh

Sports Bureau
BENGALURU

Sri Lankan N. Thangaraja continued his excellent form by winning the ₹1 crore Bengaluru Open 2025 at the Karnataka Golf Association (KGA) course here on Friday. Thangaraja won his second title in four weeks and third trophy of the season following his resolute final round performance of two-under 69.

Thangaraja (66-65-66-69) took the title by a two-shot margin at a total of 18-under 266, and secured his seventh professional win.

All smiles: Thangaraja with his trophy. K. MURALI KUMAR

The 44-year-old from Colombo picked up the winning cheque worth ₹15 lakh that took his season's earnings to ₹82,22,088. Thangaraja consolidated himself in third position in the PGTI Order of Merit.

Manu Gandas (70-63-69-66) of Gurugram finished runner-up at 16-under 268 after he posted a 66 on the last day. Bengaluru-based Rahil Gangjee shot the final day's best score of 64 to claim tied third place at 13-under 271 along with Saptak Talwar who carded a 67 on day four.

BENGALURU ROUND-UP

Sumanth and Abhishek star for Young Orions

Sumanth (24 points) and Abhishek Gowda (16 points) helped Young Orions defeat Beagles BC 84-59 in the State 'A' division basketball league on Friday.

The results:
Young Orions 84 (Sumanth 24, Abhishek Gowda 16) bt Beagles BC 59 (Achintya 20, Arpan 15); Bank of Baroda 55 (Nagaraj 13, Harish 10) bt DK District 35 (Amruth 11); Southern Blues 75 (Venkat 22, Ranga 14) bt JSC 69 (Sanketh 23, Kaif 14); DYES Sports Hostel Bangalore 74 (Manoj 22, Srinivas 18) bt MNK Rao Park BC 61 (Ajin 26, Faaz 10).

Triumphant: Bazooka Blizzards team that won the CSPL season 2.

Easy win for Kickstart

Kickstart FC blanked ASC & Centre FC 3-0 in the KSFA Super Division football league at the Bangalore Football Stadium here on Friday.

The results: FC Real Bengaluru 2 (S. Sanjay 58, Syed Ahmed 75) bt Bangalore City FC 1 (R. Sachin 66); Kickstart FC 3 (Govind Swamy 20, V. Vignesh 26, Rakesh Singh 43) bt ASC & Centre FC 0; FC Bengaluru United 1 (Altab Hussain 21) bt FC Agniputhra 0.

Bazooka Blizzards is the champion

Bazooka Blizzards edged out Hurricane Hawks 4-3 in the final to win the second edition of the Cue Sports Premier League.

James Wattana and Manudev from Bazooka Blizzards won the 'Best Pair' award, while Stephen Lee was adjudged as the 'Best Player'.

Mannan meets Tavish in the boys' final

Press Trust of India
NEW DELHI

Top seed Parthsarthi Arun Mundhe and Shreeniti Chowdhury set up a final in the girls' U-16 singles while Mannan Agarwal and Tavish Pahwa will clash for the boys title after hard-fought victories at the Fenesta Open National Tennis Championship here on Friday.

Parthsarthi continued her excellent run in the tournament, defeating fourth seed Snigdha Kanta 6-3, 6-1 while Shreeniti delivered an excellent performance, defeating Harsha Oruganti 6-2, 6-2 in one hour and 28 minutes.

In the boys' U-16 semifinal, Mannan Agarwal edged out Shivtej B. Shirfule 7-6(5), 6-4 while Tavish Pahwa joined him in the final after a 6-3, 6-3 win over Om Ramesh Patel.

Friday's Mysuru races cancelled due to overnight rain

Racing Correspondent

The Stewards of the Mysore Race Club have decided to cancel the eleventh day of the Mysore monsoon races, scheduled to be held on Friday, October 10.

Heavy overnight rains rendered the underfoot conditions of the race track not conducive for racing, except the Mysore Dasara Sprint Championship – 2025, which has been postponed and shall be run on the twelfth day, Thursday, October 16.

The declaration for the Mysore Dasara Sprint Championship – 2025 shall hold good.

PKL play-offs and final to be held in Delhi

Press Trust of India
NEW DELHI

The play-offs and the title clash of this season's Pro Kabaddi League will be held at the Thyagaraj Stadium in New Delhi, the organisers announced on Friday.

The Delhi leg of season-12 commences on October 11. The Delhi leg comes at the end of one of the most competitive seasons of the PKL.